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MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL
OBSERVATIONS,
as an APPENDIX to a former
PUBLICATION.

By
BENJAMIN GOOCH
SURGEON.



Homines ad Deos nulla re propius accedunt
quam salutem hominibus dando. CICERO

LONDON,
Printed for G. ROBINSON,
in Paternoster Row, and
R. BEATNIFE in NORWICH.

MEDICAL AND CHIRURGICAL
OBSERVATIONS,
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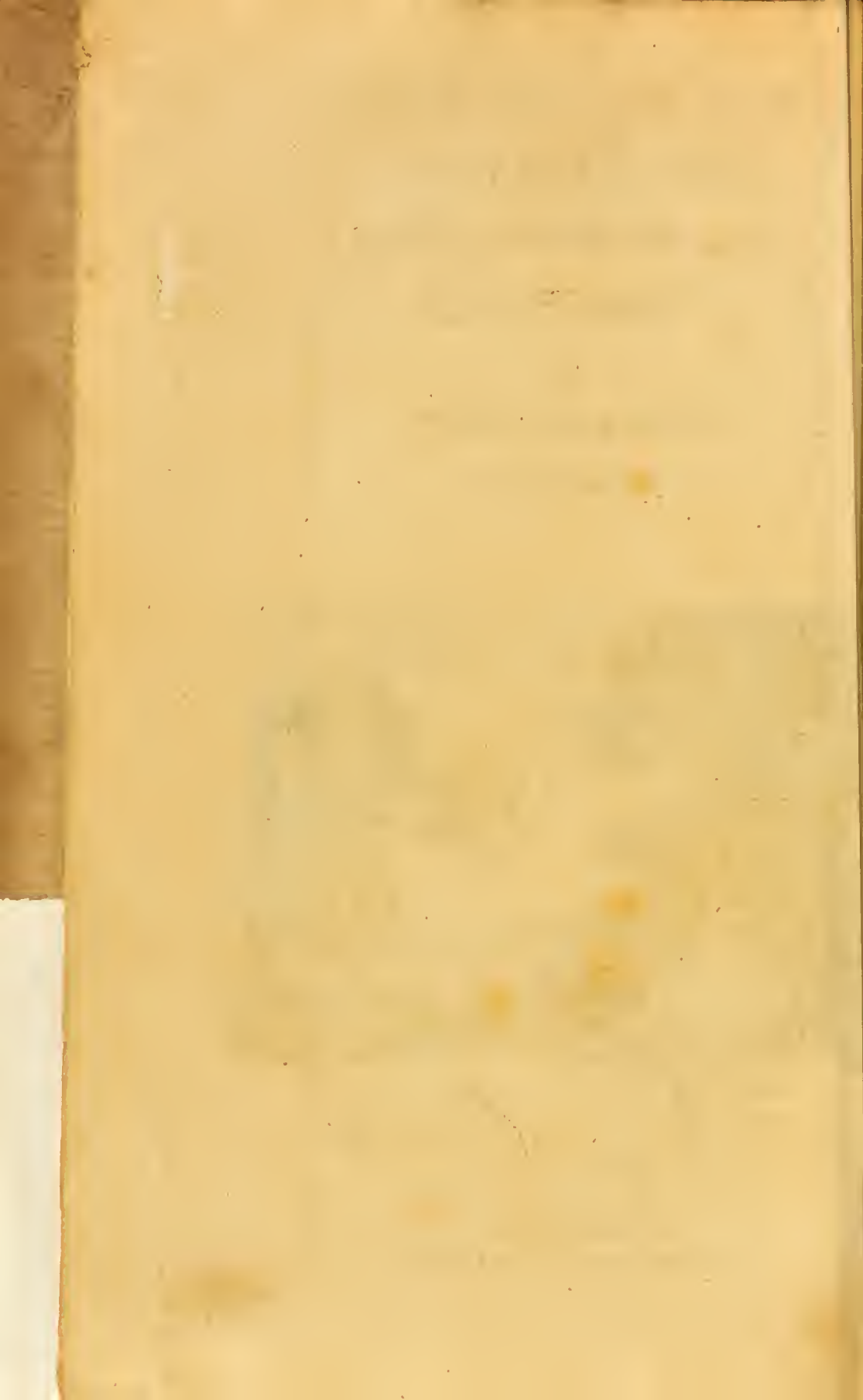
By

BENJAMIN GOOCH
—
SURGEON.



Homines ad Deos nulla re propius accedunt,
quàm salutem hominibus dando. CICERO.

L O N D O N,
Printed for G. ROBINSON,
in Pater Noster Row, and
R. BEATNIFFE in NORWICH.



TO THE
GOVERNORS
OF THE
NORFOLK and NORWICH
HOSPITAL.

GENTLEMEN,

I Take the liberty of addressing these miscellaneous papers to you, as a testimony of the grateful sense I entertain of the honor which the Society unanimously conferred upon me, in my absence and without my desire, at a very full General Board, on October the 9th, 1771, by appointing me Consulting-Surgeon pursuant to the Rules and Orders established for the Government of the Hospital.

From the principle which originally actuated me, in my inferior station, to promote this Establishment to the utmost of my power, it affords me a pleasure
a superior

superior to every other temporal confirmation to observe how it prospers in your hands; and its thriving is not to be doubted, as the nature of the Institution extends, in so signal a manner, to the relief and benefit of the miserable in their several distresses.

This very excellent Charity will certainly reward the benevolent intentions of its generous Supporters, and give the sincerest satisfaction to all who zealously exert themselves in the good work.

I am with the greatest regard,

Gentlemen,

Your most obliged

and obedient Servant

B. GOOCH.

A short

*A short Account of the Rise and
Progress of the NORFOLK and
NORWICH HOSPITAL, &c.*

THE late Lord Bishop of Norwich* formed a plan for this purpose in the year, 1759; but then an unexpected incident prevented its being carried into execution, and it lay dormant till it was lately revived, and vigorously prosecuted, by persons of his beneficent disposition, who were encouraged to expect that success would attend the revival of it, from the concern shewn, by people of all ranks,

a 2

at

* At his Lordship's desire I visited all the great Hospitals in London with the utmost attention, and procured by the very friendly and obliging behaviour and assistance of the Surgeons there and in other places, every necessary intelligence and information I possibly could to communicate to him on this occasion.—See the Preface to my Cases and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II.

at the former disappointment, ardently wishing to see an establishment of such public utility brought to perfection ; and after some preparatory steps a meeting was held upon this occasion, on August the 1st, 1770, which proved so auspicious as to encourage the Society to lay the foundation of the Building in February, 1771, the situation of which is pleasant, and in the best air, at a proper distance from the City.

Through the activity and attention of the Managers, the Building was carried on so speedily, that it was fit for the attendance of the Physicians and Surgeons to assist Out-Patients, on July the 11th, 1772, and by November the 7th of the same year provision was made for the reception of some In-Patients.

I believe it may also be truly said to the honor of this County and City, that
such

such liberality and quick progress in effecting this design have not been exceeded, if equalled, in any other place in this Kingdom, at a distance from the Metropolis; and particular regard has been paid to a point of the utmost consequence, which is, having the Wards lofty and airy. †

a 3

Very

† The Wards are of different sizes and all 15 feet high; they are kept very neat and clean, not crowded with beds, and well ventilated by having the convenience of letting down the upper parts of the sashes occasionally in the Wards and in the Galleries communicating with them; which is done every day for a due time, when the weather will admit of it: and it is observed by all people who enter these Wards that there is not the least offensiveness; particular care having also been taken in respect to the adjacent Necessaries, which has effectually obviated any complaint on that account.

In a conversation relative to Hospitals, which I formerly had with my worthy Friend Doctor Hunter, Consulting-Physician to the Brownlow-Street-Hospital, he told me there were two Wards of equal length and breadth, one directly over the other, but the upper some feet lower than the other, in which the same number of patients

Very judicious regulations have likewise been established by the Society, not only in selecting the ablest and most experienced principal Surgeons, but assistant Surgeons also regularly educated; as it is an object of the greatest concernment to have such substitutes to supply the place of the principals, when indispensable engagements prevent their attendance.

By these precautions and observances the patients will of course be properly attended, and subscriptions not discouraged through suggestions of any neglect: and by thus providing the Hospital with Surgeons in its infant state, there is the greatest probability of perpetuating a
succession,

patients were lodged in similar circumstances; and that it was observed more died in the upper than in the lower. This difference of success could not at first be accounted for, but upon farther consideration, it was apprehended it might arise from the greater impurity of the air they breathed, consequently the number of patients was lessened in the upper Ward, and then they did as well in that as in other.

succession, in the most unexceptionable manner, with the judgment and authority of the Governors, to support the credit and reputation of it when it arrives at a state of maturity.

Hitherto the success of the practice here has answered every expectation, by the assiduity of the judicious Gentlemen, who engaged to attend *gratis* on this meritorious occasion: and particular care is taken to oblige the nurses to perform their duty diligently, upon which much depends.

By the Records of the Winchester-Hospital, (which was the first that was founded upon voluntary contribution out of London in the year 1736, through the zeal and activity of Doctor Alured Clarke) it appears, that soon after its establishment, out of 872 patients admitted, there were no more than 59 whose cases, in the opinion of the Physicians and Surgeons, would not have allowed of removal a great many miles, without doing

them any injury: Hence, should it be apprehended by persons charitably inclined, who dwell in the extreme parts of the county, that their subscriptions could not be well and satisfactorily answered, on account of the remote distance, there is good reason to hope this consideration should have weight sufficient to remove such prepossession effectually, and determine them to subscribe; more especially as there are now easy and safe conveyances coming weekly from every part of the County to Norwich, where the Hospital is placed: and as a farther argument to remove this objection, provision is expressly made, by the Rules and Orders of the Hospital, that the recommendations of those at the greatest distance shall have the preference, in cases of equal exigence. ‡

The

‡ Institutions of this nature are evidently worthy the particular attention and consideration of parishes, as undoubtedly they would find their account, and be amply recompensed in subscribing to the support of them out of their public stock; for it may reasonably be supposed, that

The same worthy Gentleman who was instrumental in founding the Hospital at Winchester, when he became Dean of Exeter, exerted himself with the like zeal and alacrity in promoting such an establishment there, and his exertion was attended with the same success. His amiable character and benevolent disposition, I was made acquainted with in his life time, by a Gentleman of equal merit and virtue, his intimate and my very good Friend, at whose house I once met him: and our worthy Dean, the Reverend Doctor Lloyd, has not shewn less zeal on this occasion.

According to the Transactions of the Devon and Exeter-Hospital, several very sensible and inquisitive men, who
turned

that there is scarce any one parish, tho' ever so small, but will have in the course of a year a pauper so afflicted, as to become a proper object of an hospital provision, in a case where nursing only with other incidental charges, will amount to more than a subscription to procure every thing necessary to his cure in the most unexceptionable and best manner.

turned their thoughts with particular attention to this subject, were of opinion, that half the poor of this Kingdom die of diseases which might be cured, were timely and proper assistance given them.

Were it necessary this might be offered as a cogent argument and incentive to encourage and promote Institutions of this nature: for in what place are they so likely to find such advantages to recover their health, as in an Hospital well governed and regulated, where all due care is taken to have the benefit of suitable diet, pure air, cleanliness and every other requisite, without having the wards crowded with patients? This last article is materially necessary to be observed, the neglect of which in some Hospitals, both at home and abroad, has been productive of deleterious effects, as must inevitably be the consequence of breathing in an impure atmosphere, so contaminated with the effluvia of morbid bodies; tending also to the discredit of the Institution and the Gentlemen appointed to take care of the sick

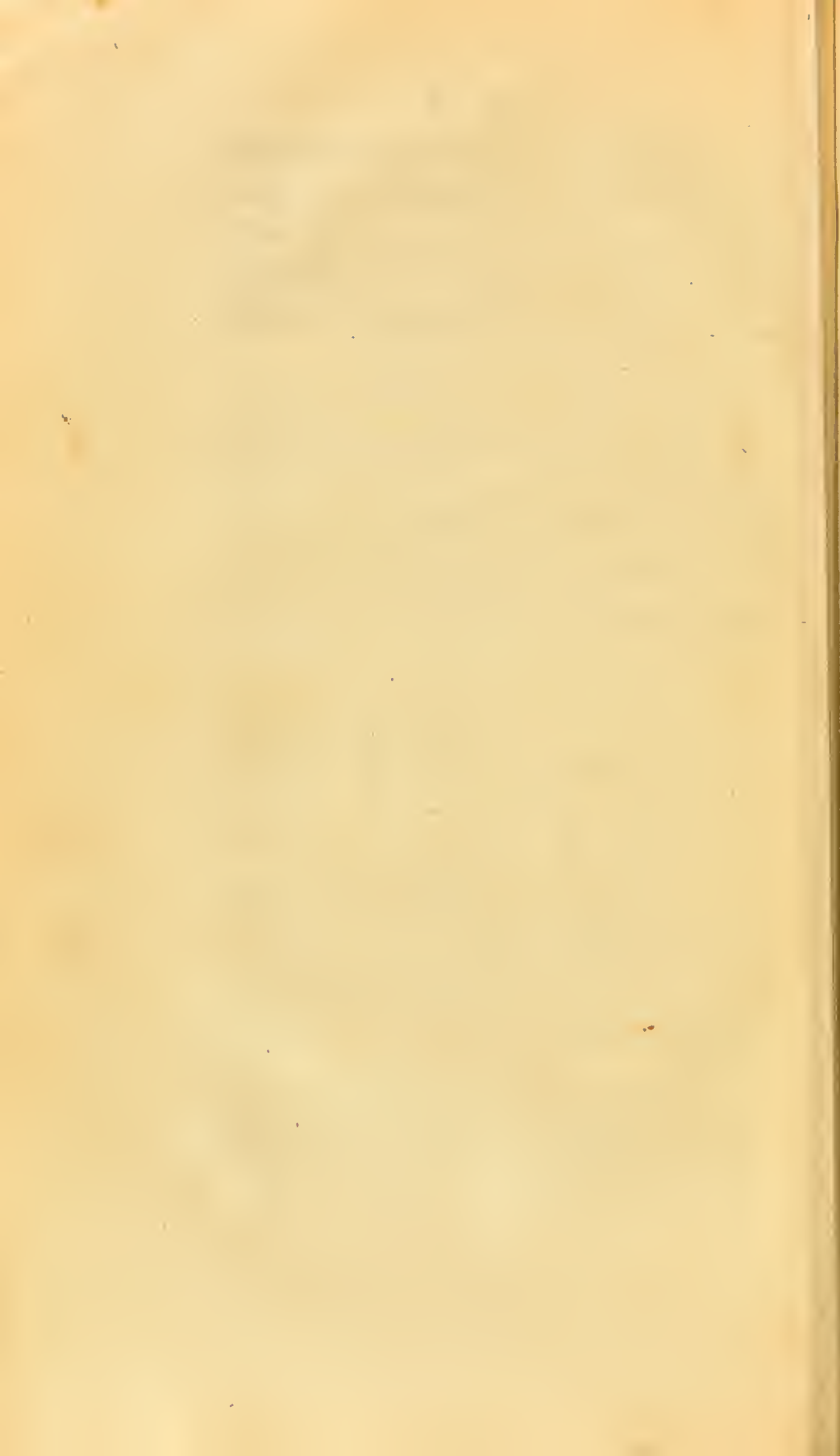
sick and lame. * And those who are improper subjects for admission into this Asylum may have the best advice and medicines without expence, to keep them from falling into the hands of bold quacks and ignorant pretenders.

In this respect the Empress of Russia has taken particular care, as I have been informed by the late Doctor Mounsey's letters, who was long Physician to her Imperial Majesty and in high esteem.

PREFACE.

* Mr. Aikin's judicious and well written Dissertation on Hospitals demands attentive reading and consideration, by all concerned in the government and management of Hospitals, that they may effectually answer the end and design proposed.

From the inevitable distresses of the poor, owing to a combination of causes, Institutions of this nature become more and more necessary.



P R E F A C E.

THESE miscellaneous papers correspond with my original design of being as useful as I can to my young Brethren, and may be considered as a supplement to my former publication.

This motive induces me without any other apology, to begin with earnestly proposing to the consideration of such Gentlemen who are destined to a situation, which requires their exercising both branches of the Medical Art, not only to make observations and remarks accurately upon all extraordinary cases occurring in their practice; but also to take minutes of memorable Epidemic Diseases, which the different seasons produce, with
the

An exhortation to young Surgeons.

the state of the weather at those times, and the most successful methods of cure.†

We have examples of illustrious men in all ages and countries from the time of Hippocrates;

† It is not my design to engage in any Hypothesis, or advance speculative notions, nor inquire nicely into the remote or proximate causes of the diseases mentioned in the following sheets; which kind of procedure has involved and bewildered many, and led them into inextricable mazes, but to relate matters of fact truly and faithfully, and as concisely as possible not to be obscure; leaving abstruse matters to more curious investigators

Qui speculantur non medentur.

Our great Countryman Wiseman, who was Serjeant-Surgeon to King Charles the Second, tells us in his Epistle Dedicatory to his excellent chirurgical Works, that he employed his time when confined with illness in writing them: I have so far followed his example, but I do not think that my productions can prove of such public utility and advantage; however, I have done my best under the like predicament, when lately confined some months with a dangerous disease.

Qui non est hodie, cras minus aptus erit.

Hippocrates ; and in this nation Sydenham and Huxham have most distinguished themselves to excite young Gentlemen of the Faculty to these observances, which, with an attentive reading the best practical Books, will prove the most effectual method of assisting them in forming their judgments to direct their practice upon various important occasions, for the greater safety of their patients, as well as for the advancement and support of their own reputation, which must appear objects of the highest concernment and interesting nature that can be offered to their consideration. *

I have

* Some eminent and learned Physicians of the past and present age have written upon endemic or popular diseases, in particular Countries where their practice gave them opportunities of making observations; as Prosper Alpinus in Egypt:—Gulielmus Piso in the West-Indies:—Jacobus Bontius in the East-Indies:—Sir Hans Sloane in Jamaica:—Towne at Barbadoes:—Cleghorn at Minorca:—Grainger at Batavia.——Their writings are in great esteem, and many of their remarks applicable to diseases which frequently occur in this Island. To these may very deservedly be added Dr. O'Connell's *Observationes Medicinales*, &c. which he dedicated to Doctor Mead. He was many years a practitioner of great repute at Cork in Ireland.

I have reflected with regret, upon not having observed and regularly pursued, what I now strongly recommend to be early attended to by others: and I did not want opportunities for such purposes, in a country situation, with a large circle of business, where I was obliged to act in the capacity of a Physician as well as a Surgeon more than 30 years, to which I closely applied myself.

Upon publishing my Opusculum a few years ago, I received a letter from Sir John Pringle, Physician to the Queen and President of the Royal Society, † encouraging

† Sprat's History of our illustrious Royal Society may be truly said to contain the *utile dulci*, and will certainly recompense the inquisitive Reader's perusal with pleasure and profit. Among other observable things, there is a curious account of the ancient manner of embalming dead bodies in the Island of Teneriffe, communicated by a Physician who resided and practised there many years.

Soon after the Establishment of this Society, the example was followed at Paris by instituting the Acad. Roy. des Sciences: and towards the conclusion of the same century, another Institution of the like nature, to promote knowledge in Arts and Sciences was founded at
Leipfic,

encouraging me to pursue the same plan : and this worthy Gentleman still honouring me with his friendship and correspondence, I thought myself under an indispensable obligation, after having digested the following papers, to communicate the heads of them to him ; requesting his candid opinion in respect to the publication of them. In consequence of this request he favoured me with a very friendly answer and useful remarks, earnestly encouraging me to publish them, giving me leave to make use of his name on this occasion ; and by his approbation they are brought to light.

b

Should

Leipfic, the publications of which are intitl'd *Acta Eruditorum*.—Another Society has been established at the University of Edinburgh, as in many other parts of Europe, for prosecuting Natural Philosophy, &c. the first Volume of which was published in 1758, intitl'd *Essays and Observations physical and literary*, after the Medical Society there had published six Volumes of *Medical Essays* with universal approbation.

Should these hints and communications answer my original design, I shall be amply rewarded; remembering Lucan's precept, which should never be forgotten.

Nec sibi sed toti genitum se credere mundo.

Shottisham,

August the 1st, 1773.

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M E D I C A L

OBSERVATIONS.

*A brief account of the most considerable
EPIDEMICS which prevailed in the
year 1739-40, 41 and 42, with some
observations and remarks.*

IN the latter part of the summer, and
in the autumnal season, of the year
1739, the weather was uncommonly
warm, calm, and sultry, with a moist
atmosphere even when it did not rain.
This disposition of the air produced a
fever of a putrid and malignant nature,
of which many died: some had erup-
tions and others not; but the time of
their appearance in the course of the dis-
ease, was very precarious and the crisis
as uncertain. *

1739.
Of a putrid &
malignant fevers

A

It

* Hippocrates in his Epidemics, his learned Commem-
tator Galen, and writers of every age and climate, have
observed, that such a state of the air has been productive
of putrid and malignant fevers.—Read the celebrated Dr.
Mead's *Monita Medica Præcepta*, § 9, upon epidemic fevers.

It is not my design to enter minutely into the nature and cause of this fever. Upon the invasion of it the pulse in general was found not much too quick, but unequal and often depressed. The blood was then florid, with a loose cohesion, and in the progress of the disease, it frequently acquired a gelatinous appearance, with little or no separation of the serum from the crassamentum: and at its height the crasis of it was more dissolved, sometimes resembling molasses in colour and consistence. Then the eruptions put on a purple or livid hue, and spasms with delirium commonly soon supervened and closed the scene in death.

Bleeding very
prejudicial in
this fever

It is a matter which requires great consideration and judgment, in order to determine the propriety or impropriety of bleeding in fevers of this kind even at first, tho' some symptoms may then seem to indicate this evacuation.-----As the greater part of those who were attacked with this fever were people of the lower rank,

rank, many were indiscriminately bled at every stage of the disease by ignorant persons, who make a trade of bleeding in the country, without having any manner of medical knowledge to direct them in a step of such importance. By this unhappy practice a great many evidently suffered, but it gave me opportunities of examining the state of the blood, as I was frequently called in, at different times of the disease; from whence I drew some useful inferences to regulate my practice.

From what I observed in the fever now under consideration, almost as much care was necessary in respect to purging as to bleeding: also confining the patients, in close rooms and hot in bed, endeavouring to force sweats, by any means, was found very pernicious; but the frequent and cautious admission of pure fresh air proved as beneficial, in the course of the disease, which often instantaneously comforted and sensibly revived

Great care & caution in respect to purging were found necessary in this fever as well as bleeding.

M E D I C A L

the patients, when almost expiring for want of it; proving more vivifying than any cordial medicine.

Method of cure

The most successful method of treating this fever in general, from my own attentive observation, supported by that of judicious practitioners with whom I held correspondence, was to clear the stomach at first with a vomit of Ipecacanha, adding to it a grain or two of Tart. emetic. and when that did not operate also sufficiently by stool, as it frequently did, then a mild purge was given to empty the primæ viæ.

In the progress of the disease, such laxatives as operated with the least commotion and disturbance were necessary, to prevent the ill consequences proceeding from too long retention of putrid fœces, &c. and to answer many salutary purposes, lenient clysters were occasionally given and frequently repeated with safety, at any time of the disease, when
it

it seemed not advisable to give purging medicines. †

† Ol. Ricini, commonly called Castor Oil, seems a very important acquisition to the materia medica. I have experienced its good effects in my own valetudinary state attended with costiveness, &c. and think it an excellent remedy superior to all of that class.—See Dr. Frazer's account in the London Medical Observations and Inquiries, Vol. II. and Doctor Canvane's Dissertation concerning the use and virtues of this medicine.

The following mixture made with this oil is agreeable to the stomach, and I have found it well answer my own purpose, by taking two or three spoonfuls at bed-time occasionally in costiveness, even when I have had the piles attended with bleeding.

R ol. Ricini ℥ iſs

Vitel. Ovi parum

probe contritis in mortario marmoreo

add. sensim

Aq. menth. piper. simp.

Cinnam. simp. a. ℥ ij.

Syrup. Rosar. solutiv. ℥ ſs m.

From what I have been sensible of myself in the use of this oil, it acts more by lubricating than stimulating the intestinal canal.

Saline draughts, with a small quantity of pulv. contrayerv. comp. were advantageously given, and temperate cordials, as circumstances required.

The diet most grateful and proper was of the liquid, farinaceous kind, with the addition of orange or lemon juice.

The most beneficial common drinks were acescent and subacid liquors; as cyder-whey, barley-water acidulated with vegetable or mineral acids, &c. and, for those who could afford it, whey made with old hock or rhenish wine was recommended. ‡

The Bark proved of singular service in many instances, more especially where
the

‡ When Sir J. P——r's groom left his master at Constantinople, and declared himself a Doctor, a putrid or malignant fever raged there and in the neighbourhood. He indulged his patients with a pleasant beverage like small punch, more than commonly acid, of which he allowed them to drink liberally, which was the principal medicine he administered: and the success of his practice gained him fame and wealth; of which I received an authentic account from his master.

the eruptions had an ill aspect, joining with it Elix. Vitrioli: and now good red port-wine mixt with water, and made grateful to the palate and stomach with juice of Seville orange, sugar, and a little spice, was found to be one of the best of cordials, taken moderately warm.

When nervous symptoms supervened they were treated with appropriate medicines, according as the nature and appearance of them directed: and in delirium with a feeble irregular pulse, blistering, particularly of the head, sometimes proved of singular service.

The following is a most dreadful instance of the malignity of this fever, and none equal to it, in all respects, came under my notice during this epidemic season.

I was called to a poor lad about twelve years of age on the fifth day of the disease, when he had been freely bled and purged. His pulse was very languid,

A 4

quick,

History of a
singular case in
this fever.

quick and irregular, and he was not perfect in his senses; besides petechial eruptions of an unfavourable complexion, he had flattish tumours of a purple colour, and of various sizes over the bones of his arms and legs, in different parts of them, exquisitely painful to the touch, and the depressions made with my fingers rose very slowly; they had a puffy emphysematous feeling, something like what is observed upon the scalp from external injuries, where the pericranium is separated from the cranium by extravasated blood.

The day after my first visit he was seized with spasmodic affections and became more delirious, soon after a stupor came on, and next morning he expired in strong convulsions, which was the seventh day of the disease.

Had there appeared to me the least prospect of his recovery, I should have opened the tumours directly, but immediately after his death I obtained leave to do so, and found extravasations of blood
in

in a state of dissolution, as I suspected, in all of them between the inflamed periosteum and the bones. ‡

This fever raged about two months, and totally ceased upon the coming on of the frost at Christmas; of which I am going to give a short account.

‡ In the malignant small-pox and fevers of that kind, where the natural cohesion of the blood is destroyed, the vessels are apt to burst, having lost their elastic power necessary to carry on the circulation.

Whenever tumours happen in consequence of such diseases with a fluid under the periosteum, they require the most speedy opening, in order to prevent the bones being affected, as well as other bad consequences, likely to proceed from the absorption of matter so virulent and corrosive. Sometimes in these cases the bones are originally affected to a great degree, as happened to a young lady I was desired to visit some time ago, after the danger of the small-pox itself appeared to be over. She had the left Os Malaë quite into the orbit of the eye, and down to the Alveoli, out of which the teeth were ready to drop, carious to such a degree as might very truly be called a sphacelus of the bone, and she died soon after I saw her, tho' she had been properly treated and taken the Bark liberally, under the direction of an experienced surgeon.

A case of an extraordinary Caries of the Os Malaë after the small-pox.

A short account of the hard winter in the Year 1739, &c. which was the severest in the memory of man.

1739 & 1740, The frost began on Christmas-Eve, ushered in by the most piercing N. E. wind I ever felt. It proved very severe the following night, and next morning the hedges and trees were covered to an extraordinary thickness with hoariness like snow. It continued to an intense degree till the beginning of February, during which space of time but a small quantity of snow fell, compared with what had been observed in some temperate winters; and the air was generally serene. February the 2d, wind S. E. the frost appeared as if it was about breaking up; but in two or three days it returned with almost its former violence, the wind N. E. On the 20th it began to thaw again. 22d it rained a little. 24th it froze moderately, and so continued

continued till the 27th, when it rained plentifully; after which time it froze no more to any considerable degree.

When the
frost ended.

In the month of March and till the 21st of April, the weather was exceedingly cold. That day, about five in the morning, it began to snow, and snowed incessantly till two in the afternoon. The air still continued very cold, wind in general N. N. E. On the 4th of May, in the afternoon, it began to rain, and after about two hours, snow and hail were intermixt with the rain; then snow fell alone and continued to do so the greater part of the next day. The morning after, the snow was many inches deep upon the level ground; it soon dissolved and the air became serene and mild, wind S. S. W.

A great fall
of snow on the
4th and 5th of
May 1740.

The summer succeeding this hard winter was uncommonly cold, dry and unfruitful. The winter after was severer than many of the preceding, with great falls of snow. The following summer,

1740.

1741.

mer proved hotter than ordinary, and the autumn warm and rainy; from which time till Christmas the weather was very variable.

Pulmonic
complaints
very rife upon
the breaking up
of the frost.

Tho' during the severity of the frost, people in general were healthy, yet upon the thaw towards the spring, pleuritic and peripneumonic disorders and coughs were more rife than ordinary, at this season of the year, when the piercing N. E. winds commonly prevail, productive of such complaints by obstructing perspiration; but they now yielded to bleeding and the usual antiphlogistic method, &c. nothing peculiar appearing in their nature to require different treatment, paying due attention to age, constitution, &c.

In order to preserve my proposed series of observations, I cannot avoid the repetition of what I have mentioned in my former publication, relative to a fever accompanied with a tumour of the face of such a kind as I never had seen or
read

read any description of, vulgarly called the *mumps*.

Of the MUMPS.

This epidemic appeared early in the summer after the preceding pulmonary disorders went off, increasing as the weather grew hotter; and it was chiefly among children and young persons. It was a disease truly of the inflammatory kind, without having the febrile symptoms run very high, nor was it of a dangerous nature; I had a great many patients of it but not one died. The swellings of the face, neck and throat, whence the disease derived its name, began soon after its invasion, and sometimes they increased in a few days to an enormous size, the skin appearing of a little deeper color than a damask rose; they were in general attended with but little pain; seldom terminated in abscesses, and when they had that termination, upon opening they healed kindly by the common treatment.

1740.

The

The general antiphlogistic method succeeded, and the patients bore bleeding, purging and nitrous medicines very well. In some a thickness and hardness of the parotid and maxillary glands remained, after they were well in all other respects, which yielded readily to small doses of merc. dulc. interposing a gentle purge at due intervals; and sometimes, besides keeping the parts warm, I used a liniment prepared with unguent cœruleum mitius & liniment. volatil. confining the patient within doors and to a proper regimen, during the mercurial course.

Of a Metastasis of the morbid matter upon the testicles

In five or six adults the tumefaction of the face, &c. subsided in a few days, and then I observed the morbid matter was immediately translated to the testes, where the tumors were attended with more pain and cured with more difficulty; but all the patients for whom I was concerned, wherein this Metastasis occurred, were cured by the same method without ending in suppuration.

This

This disease prevailed all the summer-season, and did not entirely disappear till autumn 1741, which was almost a year and half from its first appearance about ten miles south of the city of Norwich, where I then dwelt. ||

A fever of another kind.

Soon after the disappearance of the last epidemic another was introduced, which, tho' sometimes attended with eruptions, yet was evidently of the inflammatory species, and yielded to the general treatment of inflammatory diseases.

1741

I first observed it about the middle of November.

This disease seized men, women, and childred of all ages and constitutions, but those of sanguine habits most violently. At the first seizure the symptoms in general were coldness and shivering, pain of the head, lassitude, faintness, oppression

The symptoms,

|| I have several times since observed a slight fever, attended with some degree of tumefaction upon the face, &c. called also the *mumps*, but it differed from the disease here described in many respects.

pression of the breast, short and quick breathing, a pulse remarkably depressed, with sickness and vomiting; and in the progress of the disease some had eruptions, as fiery red spots of different sizes, others had an universal efflorescence, and others what much resembled a rash, all which seemed to be of the same affinity; and some became delirious even early in the disease, when bleeding was omitted at first.

Method of
cure.

After bleeding, according to the strength of the patient, a vomit was given, then a gentle purge, keeping the bowels open with the most lenient purgatives or clysters throughout the disease; and it was often found necessary to repeat bleeding two or three times. After these evacuations, blistering in delirious cases was of singular service, more especially on the head, but it was observed to be detrimental when recourse was had to it before. The patients bore nitrous remedies very well; and draughts prepared with sal. absinth. succ. limon. &c. were

were found very beneficial in case of sickness and vomiting: and the general antiphlogistic method and cool regimen, diluting freely with proper liquors answered so well, that few died who were regularly treated from the beginning, after this manner. Some who in the course of this disease were attacked with pleuritic and pulmonic complaints, I found it necessary to bleed and repeat that evacuation, even in the height of the disease, tho' attended at the same time with eruptions; and I have good reason to believe, I saved the lives of many by this means, notwithstanding the prevailing opinion was against it, under an apprehension that the eruptions would retreat, in consequence of bleeding, and the patients suffer: however, I never omitted recommending it earnestly under these circumstances, when I thought the pulse would bear it, and it seldom or never failed of answering my expectation; for what was deemed malignity, discouraging others from this practice, I considered as proceeding from a state of

B

blood

blood highly inflammatory ; and the great siziness of it verified my opinion.

From these considerations and appearances, I rarely gave cordial medicines, and when indicated, under some particular circumstances, I found julep. è camphora preferable to any other.

I was called to several persons many days after they had been seized with this disease, and treated with cordial medicines and the hot regimen, without evacuations, from the mistaken notion I have mentioned, and without producing any kind of eruption; tho' the fever was raised to a high degree by this management, and of course all the symptoms aggravated. In these cases I did not hesitate in respect to bleeding and gentle purging; and soon after these evacuations, and the observance of a cool regimen, eruptions appeared, which sensibly relieved the patients, and they recovered, tho' before apparently in the most imminent danger. Here my opinion and
practice

practice met with great opposition; but the success silenced my opponents.

I observed many at the first attack had a very languid pulse and often scarce to be felt. Some had a propensity to sweat at the beginning of the disease; but then sweating seemed prejudicial; afterwards, if not forced, it proved beneficial when arising in consequence of plentiful dilution, &c. *

A remarkable case demonstrating the good effect of bleeding in this fever.

I was called to a farmers servant, an athletic young man of a very sanguine habit, who was seized with this fever two days before. It began as usual with coldness and shivering; now he complained of a vehement pain in his head and loins, had great oppression on his

B 2

breast

* Doctor Daniel Cox, with whom I was well acquainted, wrote very judiciously upon this fever at that time

breast and præcordia, with quick respiration; his pulse was almost imperceptible, and he had a very great propensity to sweat. Tho' his pulse was so feeble, I took away directly about sixteen ounces of blood, which was sizely to a great degree, and his pulse evidently rose whilst he was bleeding. Then I ordered a common clyster should be given him forthwith, and that he should take a scruple or half a dram of purified nitre dissolved in a draught of barley-water every two hours, and drink plentifully of the common diluting liquors advised in inflammatory disorders. Next day I found his symptoms alleviated, but thought it proper to bleed him again as much as before, and ordered a repetition of the clyster towards evening and a lenient purge next morning. Upon this days visit he complained of pain of his side, on which account a vesicatory was applied to it, after the operation of the purge was over, which gave him relief; yet, considering his strength of constitution and the state of his blood, I bled him

him again freely the next day; after which, by persisting in the use of nitre and keeping his body open, with the observance of a proper regimen, he soon recovered a good state of health.

Another case of this kind of fever in a person of a different constitution attended with some singular circumstances.

I was desired to attend a gentlewoman of a lax habit and very weak constitution about thirty years of age, on the sixth day of her illness, when I found her pulse weak but regular, complaining of pain universally, but more upon her side than any where else, attended with a cough and difficulty of breathing; and she was also very restless, without having had the benefit of a motion for many days; nor had she lost any blood. I bled her forthwith to the quantity of eight ounces, and ordered a common clyster to be given immediately after

bleeding, with draughts of nitre and camphire, with other medicines usually prescribed in pleuritic and pulmonary complaints. The pain of the side continuing, I bled her again next day, and the clyster given the day before, neither returning nor producing any effect, I directed a laxative mixture to be taken in small quantities till the end shou'd be answered, and then a vesicatory to be applied to the side, which procured great relief; but the fever still continued and a thrush came on, which went quite through the alimentary canal, appearing about the anus as in an infant; * still she struggled through this very dangerous illness and perfectly recovered; though it was undoubtedly much prolonged, and rendered worse for want of bleeding and proper treatment

* I never before, nor since, saw the thrush appear in such a manner in an adult. I procured the very efficacious medicine for her on this occasion, which I have since discovered and published in my Cases and Remarks in Surgery, p. 406 & seq. edit. II. and it had an extraordinary effect by bringing away great quantities of thick sloughs by stool, keeping her body open during the use of it. Undoubtedly the alimentary canal is often much affected with the thrush, when we observe it upon the fauces &c.

treatment in time, her blood having a thick buff-colour size of strong cohesion.

The bark proved an excellent restorative in the conclusion of this disease, and Asses milk was very beneficial to the same purpose.

A case in this kind of fever, which through neglect terminated in mortifications.

I was desired, by some humane and benevolent persons, to visit a poor labouring man, who, at a great distance from his own home, had been confined with this fever more than a fortnight, destitute of necessary support, and without any medical assistance. He was about thirty years of age, of a robust and sanguine constitution, and had not lived very temperately.

I found him in cold, clammy sweats, with a feeble intermitting pulse, and was

informed, that he had been in a delirious state for many days, voiding his excrements and urine involuntarily. Upon farther examination I discovered a deep and spreading mortification over the Os sacrum extending far unto the hips, and one upon each heel; all which penetrated to the bones.

Under these deplorable circumstances, I was not willing to abandon this poor man to his fate, and the charitable persons I have mentioned readily offering to support him, I as readily engaged to take care of him, without any prospect of gratuity for my attendance, &c. I ordered a vesicatory to be applied to his head, the bark and the volatiles to be taken, and the mortifications to be dressed in the usual manner. The next day I found his pulse better; he was perfect in his senses, and the mortifications had made no farther progress.

By a regular perseverance in all respects, this dismal case ended happily,
by

by which we were amply rewarded in preserving a life, that might become useful to a wife and family of young helpless children.

This kind of fever continued with us more than six months. It was not confined to region or climate, as appears by the following extract of a letter, which I received from an ingenious young Surgeon, then first Mate on board the Royal Sovereign in Sir John Norris's squadron, cruising in the Bay of Biscay, and upon the Spanish and French coasts, &c.

Royal Sovereign, Dec. 24. 1741.

*“ You may depend upon the account I
 “ send you, according to your desire, concerning the fever, which has raged some
 “ time among us in different latitudes; for
 “ I made my observations with the utmost
 “ exactness; taking notes at the same time
 “ in my journal, and always visited the patients three times in a day.*

We heard of its being in the Navy some months before we had it with us in Norfolk.

Description of
the fever.

“ Our patients in general were seized
“ with shiverings, pain of the head, giddi-
“ ness, lassitude, faintness, great oppression
“ on the breast and præcordia, sickness and
“ frequent vomiting, with a pulse almost
“ imperceptible. In a few hours after the
“ attack they became so weak as to be in-
“ capable of assisting themselves upon almost
“ every occasion; I was myself so affected,
“ with the utmost depression of spirits; and
“ we were very subject to relapse. I ob-
“ served the most sanguine, vigorous and
“ bravest of our men were most liable to the
“ disease, but, I think, we did not lose one
“ of those, who were seized at first with fe-
“ brile symptoms to an intense degree, at-
“ tended with a strong pulse.

“ I made this single remark, perhaps not
“ altogether impertinent. A young fellow
“ of a very robust and sanguine constitution,
“ most subject to this disease, as I have ob-
“ served, resolutely bathed in the sea every
“ day and escaped. Some of our patients
“ on the 5th or 6th day were seized with
“ diarrhæas, which generally proved salu-
“ tary,

“ tary, and went off spontaneously. Three
“ or four after the fourth or fifth day fell
“ into stupors for eight or ten days; these
“ had black scabrous tongues, accompanied
“ with eruptions, spasms, &c. yet they
“ recovered. All the persons appointed to
“ attend the sick were affected more or less;
“ tho’ we had, according to the seamen’s
“ phrase, fine airy births. †

“ Our general method of cure was this. Method of
cure.
“ Bleeding plentifully at first, and repeat-
“ ing it occasionally, according to the pa-
“ tient’s strength and constitution and other
“ circumstances. After bleeding we gave
“ a vomit, and when that did not also ope-
“ rate by stool, a clyster was given, prepared
“ with sea-water and oil. If the sickness
“ and vomiting continued, we then ordered
“ the common saline mixture of succ. limon.
“ sal. absinth. &c. For common drinks
“ to be taken liberally, we directed barley-
“ water agreeably acidulated with vegeta-
“ able

† The term *birth* signifies an inclosed space, or kind of apartment, made with canvas, for one seaman or more.

“ ble or mineral acids, and such kind of
 “ acescent liquors, without any sort of ani-
 “ mal food : and we also gave cooling-
 “ powders composed of nit. punificat. and
 “ ocul. cancrorum ; keeping the bowels open
 “ with lenient purgatives or clysters.

“ When a stupor came on we always had
 “ recourse to blistering and temperate cor-
 “ dials ; finding the pulse depressed and ir-
 “ regular ; and we frequently observed sin-
 “ gular good effects on this occasion, from
 “ the application of a vesicatory to the head.

“ All who died became delirious, and
 “ and some raved forty-eight hours before
 “ they expired, when convulsions closed the
 “ scene.

“ This was our general method of the
 “ cooling kind, varied occasionally, as rea-
 “ son, observation, and experience directed
 “ us ; and indeed I must think we were
 “ very happy in the success of our practice,
 “ considering the great disadvantages of si-
 “ tuation, as we lost no more than ten pa-
 “ tients

*“ tients in the whole cruise, and we had
“ above two hundred of the ship’s crew sick
“ at one time.*

*“ Notwithstanding the continuance of this
“ fever in our ship, we were soon ordered
“ upon duty again in the same station. In
“ our second cruise we had a greater number
“ of sick, and the disease was attended with
“ more violent symptoms in general, conse-
“ quently more died, which we attributed
“ to the excessive impurity of the air between
“ decks, the necessary consequence of keeping
“ the ports close, which the fine weather
“ before permitted us to keep almost always
“ open: but we found no reason to alter our
“ method of treating our patients. Very
“ few either in this or in our first cruise,
“ had eruptions appear in the course of the
“ fever.”*

The

At the desire of the Officers of the Royal Sovereign, the substance of this narration was transmitted to the Lords of the Admiralty, and by their order it was published the *St. James’s Evening-Post*.

The very alarming malignant fever which was attended with the gangrenous sore-throat, immediately succeeded the last epidemic.

It made its first appearance in May 1742. in that part of Norfolk where I then practised; and as I had never seen the disease, nor could I recollect any description of it, that had been recorded by any of our own or other observers, I was at a loss to know its nature and consequently the proper method of treating it. Upon the strictest inquiry I could not then hear of its being in any other part of the county or the kingdom, nor could I procure satisfactory information to direct my judgment and practice, by looking into some antient writers, and also some of the last century; tho' they did afford me some useful knowledge on this very interesting subject.

This

This disease was chiefly confined to children and young persons, tho' some adults were seized with it; and the mortality which attended it was very great indeed, in none greater, perhaps, in this kingdom, except the plague itself.

I was at once convinced upon inspection, that the tonsils, fauces, &c. had not the appearance of a common inflammation, and they had an early tendency to mortify; nor did the symptoms of the fever shew it to be of the inflammatory kind: and I soon found that the patients could bear neither bleeding nor purging, nor the cooling, antiphlogistic treatment. Hence I was led to consider it of a putrid or malignant nature, consequently treated it as such, with temperate cordials, alexipharmics, preparations of the bark, &c. frequently using warm, antiseptic gargarisms. Sometimes I thought blistering the throat or sides of the neck did service, but scarifying the affected parts was evidently prejudicial. Tho' purging

purging was hurtful in this disease, yet common clysters were occasionally necessary to prevent the inconveniencies arising from costiveness, or a long retention of the fœces; and when the bowels were in the contrary state, which frequently happened, it demanded particular attention.

This disease continued for more than ten years in the county of Norfolk.

This disease continued more than ten years in my circle of business, but it was not equally violent all that time; it raged and was most mortal in the years 1745 and 1746. I had a great number of patients of it, which gave me opportunities of seeing it in every shape; but I forbear taking any farther notice of what I observed, three great Physicians, Doctor Fothergill, Doctor Huxham and Doctor Wall having treated fully and learnedly upon the nature and method of cure; to which may also be added Mr. Penrose's Dissertation on the inflammatory gangrenous and putrid sore-throat, which contains very judicious
and

and useful characteristics of distinction, to direct the judgment of the unexperienced. ‡

C

I held

‡ There seemed to me, upon strict examination, a great analogy between this disease and that of the horned-cattle, which continued many years in this island, the pathognomonic of which also appeared in the throat; and it is observable, that Aretæus, in his accurate description of this malignant disease about 2000 years ago, expressly says it was preceded by a plague amongst that species of cattle, using the word *lues* which signifies *pestilence* in man and *murrain* or the *plague* in cattle. Lib. i. cap. 9; de causis & signis morborum.

Doctor Layard, an eminent English Physician, and Dr. Blondet a Physician of great character at Montpellier, condescended, for the public good, to write upon this epidemic contagious disease, which proved dreadfully mortal to the cattle in different countries and climates.—Doctor Layard proposed inoculation on this occasion, but the practice did not prevail.

This malignant fever and fore-throat was very rare in France about the year 1748.—The celebrated Mons. Le Cat, M. D. C. at Rouen in Normandy, wrote a Dissertation upon it.—Doctor Chomel, an eminent Physician at Paris, also wrote upon this disease, which he observed there that year; and by histories of cases he shews the pernicious effects and fatal consequences of bleeding in it. In his Treatise he has given a long list of writers upon this direful disease, who lived in different countries and ages.—The learned and accurate observer, Doctor Johnson of Kidderminster, in his excellent historical Dissertation

I held a constant epistolatory correspondence for eight years, with the gentleman who favoured me with the preceding account of the fever, which raged in the Royal Navy, and particularly on board the Royal Sovereign, in the year 1741; during which correspondence till the conclusion of the war in 1748, he gratified me with many memorable occurrences, some of which I have extracted from his letters to be here inserted; first begging leave to be indulged with a short digression in justice to my friend's character, and to give the more weight and

A short digression in regard to a very worthy friend.

on malignant diseases which prevailed there for some years, has mentioned this fore-throat, with some particular remarks upon it.

Creech's Translation of Lucretius's historical account of the plague at Athens, with explanatory notes, wherein are mentioned the sentiments of Thucydides and Hippocrates upon the same subject, are well worth reading, as they contain many useful physiological and medical remarks and observations, concerning the nature and cause of malignant fevers in general, as well as this deplorable calamity in particular, which depopulated that famous city in all its glory.—It is a common saying; where the natural Philosopher ends the Physician must begin.

and authenticity to his valuable and useful communications, he being a man of great veracity, probity and application, to whom I am much obliged.

When he was well qualified for the University, he was committed to the care and tuition of a regular surgeon in extensive practice, and being very studious, he made a greater proficiency than common in a few years. At about 20 years of age he resolved to enter into the navy, we being just then engaged in a war with France and Spain. Upon his first examination at Surgeons-Hall for this purpose, he obtained a qualification for principal Surgeon of a small man of war, by the unanimous approbation of the examiners, confirmed by the examining Physician; which was considered as a singular honor conferred upon him; but one of those gentlemen, in the most friendly manner advised him to wave this appointment, and accept that of first mate of the Royal Sovereign just going out upon a cruise, which he told him, he could,

C 2

and

and would, if he chose it, procure for him without any loss of time, under a very able and experienced Surgeon his particular friend, where he would have the best opportunities of making himself acquainted with the naval or marine practice of physic and surgery, * to qualify himself the better to act alone afterwards; assuring him at the same time, that through his interest too, he might depend upon having a ship provided for him against he returned from the cruise.

Not long after he went on board, the principal Surgeon fell sick, and for the preservation of his life, was obliged to be carried on shore, and there left for the recovery of his health. By this unfortunate incident the care and important charge of the ship's crew devolved upon him, with the assistance of four mates: however, his conduct in this station proved highly to his credit, and perfectly

|| Mr. Northcote wrote an instructive treatise upon this subject in the year 1770.

ly to the satisfaction of the officers, as well as the common men, by his exemplary tenderness and humanity shewn in the exercise of his profession, with the utmost diligence and attention, as I had the pleasure of hearing from undoubted authority.

After the peace was concluded he returned to London, where he attended the Hospitals and Lectures upon every branch of the Medical Art; then at Paris, and afterwards studied at Edinburgh, where he took a Doctor's Degree, much to his reputation, his Thesis Inaguralis having been much approved by the Professors.

CASES and REMARKS.

*Communicated by the gentleman whom I
have been mentioning.*

Case of a fractured jaw-bone.

“ When I was in the Royal Sovereign,
“ a seaman who had always enjoyed good
“ health, came to ask my advice as we
“ lay in Portsmouth harbour, he having
“ two years before at New-York, frac-
“ tured the Maxilla inferior, by cracking
“ a hard walnut. The fractured bone
“ not having been properly confined and
“ treated at first, it was now become so
“ troublesome and painful, that he was
“ unable to masticate solid food. Upon
“ inspection I found the bone black,
“ and part of it moveable, so that with
“ my finger and thumb, I easily extract-
“ ed more than an inch of the whole
“ substance, with the dens canin. and
“ one

“ one of the molares still in their sockets.
 “ The cure was soon effected by the ap-
 “ plication of lint moistened in a mix-
 “ ture of aq. calcis and tinct. myrrhe:
 “ and in a reasonable time the space was
 “ filled up with osseous matter, and
 “ became as hard as bone itself, ad-
 “ mitting of mastication without any
 “ uneasiness. *

A case of a fracture of the scull, attended with some extraordinary circumstances.

“ Paul Spliff, a very corpulent Dutch-
 “ man, one of our sailors on board the
 “ Royal Sovereign, walking in a dark night
 “ with some of his comrades in Portsmouth
 “ Dock-yard, fell into the Dry-dock be-
 “ between 20 and 30 feet deep, and his
 “ head came first upon a piece of timber.
 “ His companions took him up immediate-
 “ ly, senseless and indeed seemingly dead,
 C 4 and

* See a case in my Observations, Edit. II. Page. 72.

“ and brought him on board. Our worthy
“ surgeon Mr. Green, being sick on shore,
“ the care of him fell upon me; and with
“ the most attentive examination I could
“ scarce feel any pulse, which tho’ almost
“ imperceptible, was the only sign of life
“ remaining. Upon the fall he had bled
“ very much at the nose, mouth, and ears,
“ and the bleeding still continuing, with the
“ weakness of his pulse, prevented my
“ bleeding him directly. His head was
“ immediately shaved all over, and there
“ appeared a large Ecchymosis upon the
“ right side of his head and forehead. Our
“ Surgeon being too ill to venture to come
“ on board upon this occasion, I sent forth-
“ with to the Surgeon of the Dock-yard,
“ to beg the favour of his coming with the
“ messenger, to give me his advice and as-
“ sistance, apprehending there was a frac-
“ ture, which might require scalping and
“ trepanning without delay; but he abso-
“ lutely refused his attendance at this time
“ of the night; I then sent the only mate I
“ had with me at this juncture, to remon-
“ strate to him in the most pressing man-
ner

“ ner the apparent necessity of something
“ being speedily done for the preservation
“ of the man’s life, desiring if he did not
“ choose to come instantly, that he would
“ be so kind as to lend us his trepanning
“ instruments, ours now being at the instru-
“ ment-makers to be put in order; but this
“ request he also cruelly refused; therefore,
“ at this time of the night, and under these
“ unhappy circumstances, I could do no-
“ thing but scalp him, which I did exten-
“ sively, as soon as possible, and discharged
“ a great quantity of coagulated blood, up-
“ on which his pulse rose and became more
“ regular, which before was depressed and
“ very irregular, as usual when the brain
“ is oppressed. I then found the Os Fron-
“ tis fractured with great depression, and
“ several fissures in almost every direction;
“ one in particular extended far into the
“ parietal bone, and another into the orbit
“ of the eye; but what surprised me most
“ of all, was a wide separation the whole
“ extent of the coronal suture. Tho’ I
“ could not elevate the depressed pieces of
“ the cranium, yet the patient received so
“ much

“ much relief from the scalping and re-
 “ moval of the extravasated blood, that in
 “ an hour or two after he recovered his
 “ senses and speech, with an improvement
 “ of his pulse, which afforded me great sa-
 “ tisfaction under such desperate circum-
 “ stances: however, early in the morning I
 “ conducted him to the Hospital at Gosport,
 “ where trepanning was immediately per-
 “ formed, and, at the same time, a fluid
 “ appearing under the Dura Mater, it was
 “ thought advisable to divide it the whole
 “ length of the separation of the future
 “ with scissars, which was from one tem-
 “ poral bone to the other. The operation
 “ succeeded very happily, as I was after-
 “ wards informed.” †

The Dura
 Mater success-
 fully divided the
 whole length of
 the Coronal su-
 ture.

Another

† See my Treatise on wounds, in note P. 305, and
 Cases and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II. concerning frac-
 tures of the skull. In a course of 40 years practice I have
 been concerned in a great number of fractures upon every
 part of the skull, and succeeded by the operation of the
 Trephine in about two thirds of them; even when ap-
 plied to the exceptionable parts according to the direc-
 tion of writers on Surgery, it has been attended with suc-
 cess.

Another case of a fracture of the scull attended with some singular circumstances.

“ After quitting the Royal Sovereign,
“ and being appointed chief Surgeon to a
“ small Man of War, instead of lying in
“ Port-Mahon Harbour, as we expected,
“ all the winter, we were sent in com-
“ pany with the Terrible, to cruise in the
“ Strait’s Mouth, where after a smart
“ engagement I was sent for by the
“ Surgeon of our consort, to assist him in
“ the following case.

“ William Bright aged about 24, of a
“ good habit of body and of an athletic
“ constitution, complained very much of
“ pain on the back of his hand, wrist,
“ and arm; which he could not bear to
“ be moved, or even touched, without
“ giving him the most exquisite sensati-
“ on of pain; tho’ there was no visible
“ hurt

“ hurt upon the limb ; but whilst exam-
“ ining it, we observed some blood drop-
“ ping from his head, and upon searching
“ there, discovered a wound, and the
“ probe instantly convinced us the cra-
“ nium was fractured ; consequently we
“ scalped him directly, and after suffer-
“ ing the vessels to bleed freely, restrain-
“ ed the hæmorrhage and trepanned
“ him, judging it most advisable to pro-
“ ceed to that operation without delay,
“ before the symptomatic fever should
“ come on and probably worse symptoms
“ supervene, by the Encephalon suffer-
“ ing from depressed fragments of bone
“ and extravasated blood ; besides we had
“ reason to believe the ball might be
“ lodged there, from the wound being
“ perpendicular, through the upper part
“ of the right parietal bone, and to the
“ best of the patient’s remembrance, who
“ now had his senses perfectly, it was
“ received at the very instant he was
“ stooping to take up his musket in the
“ heat of the engagement. The piece
“ of

“ of the cranium which the ball took in
“ its course was separated all round, and
“ considerably forced down upon the
“ *Dura Mater*, without any shivers or
“ fissures appearing externally. We ap-
“ plied the trephine a little below the
“ inferior part of the fracture, and when
“ we arrived at the *Diploe*, we found the
“ circular piece of bone completely cut
“ through so far, quite loose, and upon
“ taking that out, it evidently appeared
“ to us, that a much greater extent of
“ the inner table was broken off, that
“ was loose and forced down upon the
“ *Dura Mater*, which it had lacerated;
“ but we could not discover the ball,
“ even after we cut the perforation made
“ by that and the trephine one into the
“ other, and extracted several large pieces
“ of the lower table. After the strictest
“ search we could not find the ball, or
“ any other extraneous body; but felt
“ more splinters of the inner table loose,
“ which we could not extract; and from
“ this consideration, I urged making one
“ or

“ or more perforations, but my friend, a
 “ very good Surgeon, opposed this step
 “ and so it was not taken. ‡

“ The patient was dressed in the most
 “ easy and gentle manner, an exact re-
 “ gimen

‡ If one perforation of the scull, made in a depending part, will give an opportunity of sufficiently elevating a piece or pieces, or of removing fragments of the bone oppressing the brain, and also of discharging any extravasated fluid contained underneath, it will be better, for obvious reasons, not to make more; but it may often be found requisite to make more; as I have observed in patients of my own and those of other Surgeons, in consultations where I have been, with the concurrent opinion of the ablest and most judicious practitioners: and, indeed, I think none can be competent judges in such cases without seeing them and attending minutely and attentively to every circumstance.—See *Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurgie sur la Multiplicité des Trepanns*, Tom. 1. Pag. 251 & seq.—And, concerning the usefulness of perforated Plates of Lead applied after Trepanning, see my *Treatise on Wounds*, P. 315 & seq. and in my *Cases and Remarks in Surgery*, P. 14.

Tho' I have known fractures of the scull successfully treated without Trepanning, yet I am persuaded many lives have been lost for want of having that operation performed in time.

“ gimen observed, venesection several
“ times repeated, and lenient purgatives
“ occasionally administered.

“ The symptoms attending the hand
“ and arm immediately upon the acci-
“ dent, went off upon the operation;
“ the wound digested very well, and the
“ *Dura Mater* had a good aspect; yet,
“ as the ball was left, we had great rea-
“ son to fear direful symptoms would
“ sooner or later supervene.

“ On the seventh day after the opera-
“ tion this patient was conveyed to the
“ Hospital at Gibraltar, where he was
“ treated judiciously; and after the ex-
“ foliations and some splinters were
“ thrown off, the wound was cicatrized,
“ and he was thought fit to do duty
“ again in the ship, after about 3 months
“ continuance in the Hospital, where no
“ alarming symptoms occurred, nor was
“ the ball discovered. He was then re-
“ turned on board his ship, and the un-
“ dulatory motion of the ship though at
“ anchor,

A remarkable
incident.

“ anchor, brought on such a vertigo and
 “ other complaints of the nervous kind,
 “ that it was though advisable to have
 “ him sent back to the Hospital, where
 “ these symptoms very soon went off, and
 “ he walked about apparently well. After
 “ this I never saw him, but was credibly
 “ informed he did not long continue
 “ free from the most alarming symp-
 “ toms, and lost the use of his right arm,
 “ where his first complaint was, and the
 “ sight of his right eye, which is con-
 “ trary to general observation, that when
 “ paralytic symptoms come on in con-
 “ sequence of fractures of the scull, or
 “ injuries done to the Encephalon, they
 “ appear on the opposite side.

“ As every circumstance of such an
 “ extraordinary case demands notice, I
 “ shall use my utmost endeavours to ob-
 “ tain a particular account of its event,
 “ in order to transmit it to you.” ||

The

- || No farther Intelligence could be obtained in this case:

Monf. Le Dran, in his Treatise on gun-shot-wounds, re-
 lates a case of a man's dying suddenly with a ball lodged
 upon the *Sella turcica*, a year after the accident happened.

In February
1742.

“ The day after our Fleet, under the
“ command of Admiral Matthews, who
“ should have been better supported by
“ Lestock, had engaged and put to flight
“ the combined Fleets of France and
“ Spain, the wounded were sent to the
“ Hospital at Port-Mahon, where our
“ Ship was left for reparation, and I had
“ the opportunity of attending and dress-
“ ing there till April.

“ In this Hospital we had a great va-
“ riety of cases in respect to gun-shot-
“ wounds and compound fractures, with
“ many amputations of course from such
“ accidents; and here I recommended
“ the use of your retractor and method
“ of amputating above the knee, which
“ were much approved.

“ As to compound fractures I must
“ confess I saw no treatment of them so
“ worthy notice as I observed under your
“ care; and indeed the success here was
“ but very indifferent, which is the case
D “ in

“ in general in Hospitals, from bad air,
 “ &c. particularly in military Hospi-
 “ tals, where requisite accommodation is
 “ wanting. *

“ Some extraordinary incidents in two
 “ amputations induce me to give you
 “ short relations of them.

An amputati-
 on at the scapu-
 lar articulation
 with an unhap-
 py event.

“ A very robust, healthy young man
 “ had a shattered arm amputated at the
 “ scapular articulation, by the Hospital
 “ Surgeon, and the artery not being se-
 “ cured by the needle and ligature, a
 “ violent hæmorrhage ensued the next
 “ day; upon which accident the patient
 “ fainted, and it was thought he would
 “ not have revived. When the dressings
 “ were removed no bleeding appeared,
 “ and the artery had so far retracted it-
 “ self that the mouth of it could not be
 “ discovered,

* Observe what Sir John Pringle says concerning the
 Hospital Fever, &c. in his most excellent Book on Dis-
 eases of the Army, which also contains much more useful
 medical knowledge than what the title specifies.

“ discovered; however a styptic, was ap-
 “ plied by guesfs and a comprefs over it,
 “ having a person appointed to make
 “ constant preffure upon it. Two days
 “ after, when it was apprehended there
 “ was no danger of a return of the bleed-
 “ ing, the artery broke out again, and
 “ then the patient funk irrecoverably
 “ under it, before it was difcovered.
 “ A melancholy circumftance indeed to
 “ relate, thus to have a life loft for want
 “ of due attention, and not having the
 “ artery effectually fecured by needle and
 “ ligature at firft. †

“ The other cafe was alfo a compound
 “ fracture of the arm, fo near the joint
 “ that the Surgeons at firft determined
 “ to take it off there; but on farther
 “ confideration, it was refolved to ampu-
 “ tate it at the fractured part; previous
 “ to which a tape was paffed with a
 “ feton-needle through the internal part

D 2

“ of

† See a pertinent cafe in my Observations, Edit. II.
 p. 341.

This method was originally practised in amputating at the joint.

“ of the arm near the bone, to serve the
 “ purpose of a tourniquet, there not be-
 “ ing room to affix that. The tape was
 “ tied sufficiently strait with a bow-
 “ knot, then the limb was amputated
 “ and the artery taken up in the usual
 “ manner with the needle and ligature,
 “ and the tape withdrawn. This patient
 “ was seized with a bad fever and did
 “ not recover.” †

“ A young

How to stop the course of the blood in the subclavian artery

‡ I can by pressure with my thumb upon the little pectoral muscle, just above the clavicle, stop the course of the blood in the subclavian artery, as I have mentioned in my Treatise on wounds, Pag. 78 & seq.

I believe it would be no difficult matter for an ingenious mechanic to invent, with proper instructions, a machine for this purpose, by which means the operation might be performed at the articulation, with as much ease as a common amputation; but was I to perform the operation, and had an assistant I could well depend upon, I should prefer his compression, as mentioned above, for obvious reasons.

In an amputation below the knee, I once saw a large portion of a tendon and a nerve included in the ligature with an artery, even by a Surgeon conversant in operations; in consequence of which, pain, spasms, and a violent fever ensued and carried off the patient, who was a
 good

“ A young man was brought to this
 “ Hospital during my attendance, who
 “ had his breast trodden upon about

D 3

“ half

Of an abscess
 in the Thorax
 in consequence
 of an external
 injury attended
 with remark-
 able circumstan-
 ces.

good subject, in strong convulsions on the third day after the operation. The day after the patient's death, I had an opportunity with some other Surgeons, of examining the stump, and we then found the ligature upon the parts as described. An ingenious Surgeon told me some time ago that when he was a Dressing-Pupil in an Hospital, he was an eye-witness where a ligature remained on till every other part of the stump was cicatrized, which could not be removed without making a deep incision to disengage it from the tendinous parts, about which it was tied with the artery.

Those who are inclined to follow Mr. Aikin's rational method in the Appendix to Mr. White's judicious Observations in Surgery, by making ligatures on the large arteries with forceps in amputations, as was formerly done, in order to obviate the inconveniencies and dangerous consequences just mentioned, should be particularly careful in doing it, after drawing out the vessels to a sufficient length, lest the retraction of them and the impulse of the blood should throw them off. Two fatal instances, for want of this attention I well remember to have happened more than 40 years ago, when the needle was seldom used: in one the hæmorrhage was so great, that the patient expired before the Surgeon could get to him, who lived but two miles off, no precaution having been taken to have recourse to the tourniquet upon such an incident; and the other patient never recovered the immense loss of blood.

“ half a year before, by a person very
 “ forcibly, whence violent symptoms en-
 “ sued, as pain, great difficulty of breath-
 “ ing, cough, fever, &c. notwithstanding
 “ proper care had been taken of him at
 “ first. In consequence of this injury,
 “ a tumour at length appeared, with an
 “ obscure fluctuation of a fluid, being
 “ much confined by the pectoral muscle;
 “ however, it was determined in a con-
 “ sultation

With the same considerations and views of those in-
 genious gentlemen, very laudably attentive to the im-
 provement of our art, I practised for many years much
 to the satisfaction of myself and other Surgeons, the me-
 thod mentioned in a note at Pag. 335 of my Cases and
 Remarks in Surgery. Edit. II.

By drawing the artery gently out a little way by one
 edge with dissecting forceps made rough, or with very
 small teeth for obvious reasons, the ligature may be easi-
 ly conveyed on with the needle, taking in only a little of
 the connecting cellular membrane effectually to pre-
 vent its slipping off; and it will cause no more pain or
 inconvenience than including the vessels alone, which
 should be tied but moderately strait.

Either of these methods, and the application at first of
 the most easy dressing and bandage with the least degree
 of circular pressure, will certainly avert many formidable
 symptoms in consequence of amputations.

“ fultation to open it, and an aperture
“ was made with an imposthume-lancet,
“ very properly in the depending part,
“ without any appearance of matter,
“ only upon the point of the instrument,
“ the muscle closing the orifice, till his
“ position was altered, when it came
“ gushing out in a large quantity; and
“ from the flatus &c. it evidently pro-
“ ceeded from the cavity of the Thorax,
“ Upon dilating the wound a carious
“ rib was discovered, and about two
“ inches of it immediately extracted,
“ entirely separated from the cartilage.
“ Towards the conclusion of this cure, a
“ rib on the other side was fractured, by
“ a violent fit of coughing, yet in length
“ of time he recovered of this too.
“ When this latter accident happened he
“ was exceedingly emaciated, and four
“ Surgeons, who strictly examined him,
“ were unanimous in opinion, that it was
“ a complete fracture. Before the for-
“ mer accident he was healthy, and never
“ had any specific symptoms of a vene-
“ real, scorbutic or scrophulous nature;
“ nor did any such appear now.

A rib fractured
by coughing.

A similar accident by such an exertion.

“ Mr. Christy, senior Surgeon of this
 “ Hospital, assured me, that he knew a
 “ gentleman who fractured a rib by vio-
 “ lent exertion in coughing.

Prefuming upon the farther indulgence of my readers, I shall proceed to insert a few short extracts from the letters of my Correspondent, who was a diligent inquirer and observer; concerning the state of Physic and Surgery in several places abroad, &c. adding here and there a note occasionally, believing they will not prove disagreeable, perhaps not altogether unprofitable, to those I professedly thus employ my time to serve: and should they afford them only a little entertainment, promoting a spirit of emulation to improve such hints to their advantage; my end and design will be answered.

The medical
 Art in no repute
 at Smyrna.

“ In a cruise into the *Levant*, I found
 “ no Physicians or Surgeons in any re-
 “ pute at *Smyrna*, where illness detained
 “ me some time, except those who at-
 “ tended

“ tended the *European Factories*. The
 “ Mahometans, being Fatalists, pay very
 “ little regard to Phyc.

“ When I used to take the air for the
 “ recovery of my health in the environs of
 “ this city on horseback, very awkwardly
 “ accoutred indeed in conformity to the
 “ turkish mode, it was necessary to be
 “ attended by a Janizary for protection,
 “ as the Turkish robbers generally shoot
 “ the traveller first and then rob him.

A necessary
 precaution in re-
 spect to the
 practice of the
 Turkish robbers.

“ However, notwithstanding the pre-
 “ valent notion of the ferocious disposi-
 “ tion of the Turks, I found those very
 “ obliging who used to visit our Facto-
 “ ry, where I was well accommodated
 “ during my stay at *Smyrna*; they used
 “ to invite me to walk in their gardens,
 “ presenting me with fruit, and giving
 “ other testimonies of civility and cour-
 “ ous behaviour. There seems no dan-
 “ ger of living among them, if we do
 “ not concern ourselves with their wo-
 “ men or their religion; but commit-
 “ ting

The civility
 and humanity of
 the Turks.

“ting any acts of indiscretion in these
 “points, wherein they are very jealous,
 “nice, and delicate, would probably ex-
 “cite their vengeance with fatal conse-
 “quences.

Of the Ele-
 phantiasis or Le-
 pra Græcorum,
 being now in the
 Islands in the
 Archipelago.

“In the *Grecian Islands* in the *Archi-*
 “*pelago* the *Elephantiasis*, or *Lepra Græ-*
 “*corum*, still prevails; many poor mi-
 “serable objects I there beheld in this
 “condition.

“As no medical persons by profession
 “now dwell in these Islands, some of
 “them hearing that English men of
 “war were upon their coast, came on
 “board our ships, and almost every one
 “of them brought a pullet under his
 “arm to offer as a gratuity for our
 “advice. Tho’ our humanity was ex-
 “ceedingly affected with the tyrannous
 “subjection they laboured under, joined
 “with the most noisome contumacious
 “disease, yet as we were in a per-
 “petual fluctuating state, cruising in
 “quest of our enemies, that prevented
 “even

“ even a possibility of administering to
 “ them any relief in their complicated
 “ misery. *

“ In

* The *Elephantiasis*, or *Lepra Græcorum*, which is of the same species with the *Lepra Arabum* is reckoned among the incurable diseases; it is elegantly described by *Aretæus the Cappadocian*, *Lib. II. Cap. 13.* who says it is so called from its foul aspect resembling the Elephant's skin, with unequal protuberances, roughness and thickness of the parts having clefts and chaps—*Pliny* says it appeared in *Italy* in the time of *Pompey the Great*, who thought it had been peculiar to the *Egyptians*.

Lucretius says,

Est Elephas Morbus qui propter Flumina Nili
 Gignitur Ægypto, in Media, neque præterea usquam.

Galen speaks of seeing it to a great degree in his time in *Alexandria*, in which University he was educated, and afterwards resided and practised at *Rome* in the highest reputation.—It is observed to be less frequent in *Germany*, *Scythia*, and the cold northern *Regions* than in hot countries.—*Amb. Pare* says it is more in *Spain* and *Africa* than in any other part of the world, and more in *Languedoc*, *Guyenne*, and *Provence* than in all *France* besides.—*Towne* says that the inhabitants of the *Caribbee Islands*, both the white people and the negroes, are very subject to this disease, but that it there generally follows some other violent disorder; or proceeds from living upon unwholesome diet: and *Doctor Dunbar*, with whom I was formerly acquainted, since dead, who practised

Reflections on
the present state
of Greece and
Athens.

“ In this cruise I had also opportuni-
“ ties of visiting many other parts of an-
“ cient Greece, but it gave me inexpress-
“ sible concern to reflect upon and com-
“ pare

tified there, confirmed to me what *Towne* has written upon this subject.—*Hughes*, in the II^d Book of his excellent Natural History of *Barbadoes*, speaking of the diseases of this and the adjacent *Islands*, has something relating to this matter well worth reading.

An ingenuous young Gentleman, Mr. Forster, bred in Guy's Hospital and settled now in London, who was Surgeon to an *East-Indiaman*, lately informed me by letter, among other judicious remarks, what he observed of this dreadful disease on the *Malabar-Coast*, where he saw several miserable creatures, with one of their legs near 30 inches in circumference and the foot enlarged in proportion, unattended with pain tho' so enormously swelled; and under these circumstances, he says, no attempt is made in *India* to cure them.

The celebrated *Doctor Mead* has made inquiry about this matter, in his Book *de Medica Sacra*.—In the *medical Transactions of the College of Physicians*, Vol. I. *Dr. Heberden*, an eminent Physician at *Lisbon*, has communicated the history of a cure of this disease by the *Bark* in a confirmed and inveterate case, and says he has found it successful in several incipient cases.—See in the *London Medical Observations and Inquiries*, Art. 18. Vol. I. a letter to the late ingenious and learned *Doctor Cullen* from a *Physician at Aix*, giving an account of the
Leprosy,

“pare their present miserable condition
 “in abject vassalage and slavery under
 “the Ottoman Government, with their
 “former glorious state; even *Athens*
 “itself

Leprosy, as it appears in the *Hospital* called *St. Lazare*, which has been established for time immemorial upon the coast of *Provence* in *France*.—*Vid. Celsum de Vitiliginis Speciebus*, Lib. V. Cap. 28. et *Hieronimum Mercurialem*, who has written very learnedly upon the *Lepra* in his *Treatise de morbis cutaneis*, wherein he mentions many of the earliest writers upon this disease, which is considered by the *Systematic writers* of the last century, as one of the *Opprobria Medicorum*, as well as by those of greater antiquity.

As we have the *Leprosy* in this *Island* of a temperate climate, it generally appears like bran upon the skin, or a dry white scab, more frequently found upon the elbows and knees than any where else, tho' no part of the body is exempt from it.—Under these circumstances I have seen more good done by a long continued and regular perseverance in the use of *Merc. sublimat. corrosiv.* in very small doses, than by any other medicine, drinking, during the mercurial course, very liberally of a decoction prepared with *guaiacum*, *sassafras*, *china* and *sarsaparilla*, having crude *antimony* boiled in it, loosely tied up in a piece of cloth; taking now and then a lenient purge and using a warm bath.—I have also experienced the good effects of this liniment.

R *picis*

“ itself, once transcendently famous and
 “ renowned throughout the world for
 “ being the seat of arts and sciences,
 “ polite literature and refined policy, is
 “ now overwhelmed with barbarism and
 “ ignorance.----Strange vicissitudes! ---
 “ *Quis talia fando temperet à lacrymis?*

“ I have collected some natural and
 “ artificial curiosities, which I hope to
 “ have the pleasure of entertaining you
 “ with, when we have subdued our ene-
 “ mies. †

“ We

R picis liquid. ℥iss

Ung. e. Florib. Sambuc, ℥iv.

*Lixiv. Tart. ℥i. m. bis in die applic.
calidâ manu.*

I have also seen singular good effects from the Cheltenham-waters, not only in this but in some other obstinate cutaneous complaints; and lately in a very striking instance, wherein many other powerful methods proved inefficacious.

† Upon my friend's return from this cruise, through the carelessness of the persons employed to careen the ship in Vado-Bay, she was sunk and lay under water some time, by which unfortunate accident he lost some of his most valuable curiosities.

“ We took several French prizes in this
 “ cruise, in one of which was a merchant
 “ who had been upon business to *Mecca*,
 “ not as a Pilgrim. He made me a pre-
 “ sent of a pint bottle of true *Balsam e*
 “ *Mecca*, as a grateful acknowledgement,
 “ for some services I rendered him in my
 “ profession, having nothing else left to
 “ give. He was a very polite, well bred,
 “ sensible man, and entertained me in an
 “ agreeable manner upon various occur-
 “ rences and subjects relative to what he
 “ had observed there, and in many other
 “ parts of the world.

“ For the honour of the English Na-
 “ tion, I can assure you, that our pri-
 “ soners were always treated with great
 “ humanity, &c.

“ There is an odd kind of language,
 “ mere jargon, called *Lingua Franca*,
 “ which is spoken in the *Levant*, com-
 “ posed of *Italian*, *French*, and *Spanish*:
 “ and it is also the common language in
 “ almost all the *maritime Towns* in the
 “ *Mediterranean*;

Of *Lingua*
Franca.

“ *Mediterranean* ; hence it is necessary to
 “ be acquainted with it in these destina-
 “ tions. It is not taught grammatically;
 “ but I soon acquired enough of it by
 “ conversation to serve my purpose.

“ Upon our return from this cruise
 “ into the *Mediterranean*, while some
 “ of the Fleet lay near *Leghorn*, I was
 “ desired, with other Surgeons, to visit
 “ a Scotch Surgeon of character, who
 “ was settled there, in order to consult
 “ about a tumor upon his breast of
 “ the glandular kind ; * and it was our
 “ unanimous opinion, that it should be
 “ speedily extirpated, as it had a threat-
 “ ning cancerous tendency ; but in this
 “ very populous town, an expert Surgeon
 “ was not to be found to perform the
 “ operation, and he was obliged to take
 “ a journey to Florence on this account,
 “ more than 40 miles from hence ; in
 “ which fine and large city and univer-
 “ sity,

Neither Sur-
 geons nor Phy-
 sicians of emi-
 nence at Leg-
 horn.

* A few years ago my opinion was asked in a similar case ; but the Gentleman, who had lived very intemperately, would not submit to the operation and died miserably.

“ fity, the capital of the Grand Duke of
 “ Tuscany’s dominions, many high cha-
 “ racters in both branches of the medical
 “ art, reside. The river Arno adds great-
 “ ly to the beauty of this elegant town.

“ I have had the honor of attending
 “ an officer of high rank and character
 “ in the army twice to *Rome*, which jour-
 “ nies afforded me great pleasure, and
 “ gave me opportunities of inquiring
 “ into the present state of Physic and
 “ Surgery in *Italy*; but I was extremely
 “ concerned to find the medical art there
 “ not in the repute it was formerly.

The Medical
 Art rather in a
 declining state
 in Italy.

“ Since the fall of the *Salernian-School*,
 “ only *Bologna* and *Padua* are in credit
 “ for the study of this science, where
 “ there are some eminent Professors;
 “ and at the latter University the great
 “ *Morgagni* presides, and supports the
 “ reputation of it with dignity.

“ I could not understand, that even at
 “ *Rome* itself there are any physicians who

E

“ now

“ now remarkably distinguish themselves,
 “ where the illustrious *Baglivi* once shined
 “ as a star of the first magnitude.

Of the unsuccessful expedition against Pondicherry.

“ That brave Officer who honoured
 “ me with his friendship, was thought
 “ to be the best Engineer in the Army;
 “ and when he was some time after my
 “ attending him to *Rome* appointed to
 “ conduct the expedition against *Pondicherry* which proved unsuccessful, he
 “ pressed me to attend him as Surgeon
 “ to the Train of Artillery, with the
 “ prospect of being enriched by the
 “ spoils of our enemies; but I declined
 “ the offer, fearing the climate would not
 “ agree with me, as I had been subject
 “ to a spitting of blood in the *Levant*,
 “ &c. Vain are the hopes and expectations
 “ of mortals! Upon the first attack a chain-shot deprived this Hero
 “ of both his legs and life, leaving much
 “ to fame, and unhappily no person properly qualified to fill his post.

“ After

“ After my delightful excursions to
 “ Rome, our ship being stationed in the
 “ Mediterranean near the *Island of Sardi-*
 “ *nia*, it was appointed to carry the *King*
 “ *of Sardinia's Archbishop* to his See at
 “ *Cagliari*, whom we found a very agree-
 “ able affable man, about 30. years of age.

Of an agree-
 able Voyage
 with the King
 of Sardinia's
 Archbishop to
 his See at Cag-
 liari.

“ Stormy weather and adverse winds
 “ made our voyage tedious, but then it
 “ gave me an opportunity of enjoying
 “ much more entertaining and useful con-
 “ versation with his Lordship, in the most
 “ pleasing and familiar manner, which
 “ fell principally to my share; as I hap-
 “ pened to be almost the only person
 “ who spoke French tolerably, which
 “ he spoke in perfection, and also the
 “ Latin Tongue fluently; but he chose
 “ to converse in French. In the course
 “ of our conversation upon various sub-
 “ jects he informed me, that he believed
 “ there were not many conspicuous cha-
 “ racters among the Physicians or Sur-
 “ geons even at Turin, the Capital of
 “ the King of Sardinia's Dominions.

Of Sir John
Sinclair's coming
on board his ship
to consult him.

“ Soon after this, when we lay off
“ *Genoa*, Sir John Sinclair, a Scotch
“ Gentleman, one of the *King of Sardi-*
“ *nia's* Officers, came on board our Ship,
“ to ask my opinion concerning a com-
“ plaint of his arm, &c. and consider-
“ ing his station and character, I thought
“ it prudent to advise a consultation;
“ and *Genoa* being the nearest large town,
“ thither I attended him on this ac-
“ count; but the Faculty there, in nei-
“ ther branch, seemed to shine in their
“ profession.

The Physici-
ans and Surgeons
at *Genoa* not
the best.

“ This Gentleman's case was more
“ surgical than physical; the method
“ I proposed in consultation was put in
“ practice and happily succeeded, in per-
“ fectly curing this gallant Officer in a
“ short time, who entertained no high
“ opinion of the *Genoese* *Æsculapii*: and,
“ indeed, those who had attended him
“ before in the Army had not treated
“ the case judiciously.

“ In

“ In this City is a large Hospital,
 “ which I visited attentively. It is nei-
 “ ther well built nor under good regu-
 “ lation and government, nor is the
 “ practice exemplary; and indeed I saw
 “ none that pleased me in *Italy* either
 “ in construction or otherwise. The
 “ bedssteads are made of iron, that they
 “ may not harbour bugs; it is the only
 “ thing worth notice in this house,
 “ which is neither properly ventilated
 “ nor kept clean.

The Hospital
 at Genoa not a
 good one.

“ I suppose I could not omit acquaint-
 “ ing you among other occurrences in
 “ the course of the war, with my going
 “ upon the expedition intended for the
 “ bombardment of *Naples*; of which scene
 “ of destruction the Neapolitans have
 “ particular reason to be horribly afraid,
 “ as the houses in general are flat-roofed
 “ and much exposed. When the mor-
 “ tars were elevated and ready to play,
 “ waiting only for the signal, in con-
 “ junction with canonading, a Grandee
 “ came on board our Commodore's Ship,

E 3

“ and

Of the expe-
 dition for the
 bombardment of
 Naples.

“ and acceded to articles, which were
 “ soon after broken; so was this grand
 “ design frustrated.

Of the prof-
 pest of Naples
 from the Sea.

“ I very much wished for the oppor-
 “ tunity of visiting this famous City,
 “ which makes the most splendid and
 “ magnificent appearance to the sea of
 “ any in the world, the superb build-
 “ ings gradually rising to a stupendous
 “ height in the form of a crescent like
 “ an amphitheatre from the shore, which
 “ I could descry with my glasses; and
 “ really I could not view such a delight-
 “ ful place, and think of its impending
 “ devastation, without having my mind
 “ filled with concern, tho’ in a state of
 “ hostility: and the inhabitants were
 “ then threatened with an eruption from
 “ Mount Vesuvius, &c. Here I saw
 “ flames proceeding from the Volcano at
 “ Stromboli.

“ The plan I hinted to you in a for-
 “ mer letter, which I purposed to follow
 “ upon the conclusion of the war, was,
 “ first to attend a due time in *London* to
 “ every thing relative to our profession

“ as I did ; and conclude my long pere-
 “ grination with an excursion to *Paris*.
 “ In consequence of this resolution, I
 “ embarked on board a small ship in the
 “ *Thames* bound for *Havre de Grace*, in-
 “ tending to visit the celebrated *Monf.*
 “ *Le Cat* Surgeon to the *Hôtel-Dieu*
 “ at *Rouen* in *Normandy* in my way to
 “ *Paris*.

“ Neither our Ship nor Mariners were
 “ of the best kind, and soon after we got
 “ into the Channel a most violent storm
 “ arose, proving of long duration, and I
 “ never thought myself in near so much
 “ danger but once before, which was in
 “ the Gulph of Lyons. I happened,
 “ from long experience, to be well ac-
 “ quainted with what was necessary to
 “ be done for our preservation in this
 “ distress, and wrought truly for my life,
 “ which animated the Mariners to do
 “ their duty and not despair ; by which
 “ means, after very great fatigue and
 “ difficulty, we gained the destined port.

Of being in
 the most emmi-
 nent danger of
 Shipwreck in
 the British chan-
 nel.

“ As soon as I recovered from my late
 “ fatigue, -I went from *Havre de Grace*
 “ directly to *Rouen*, where I was received
 “ with great politeness and civility by
 “ *Monf. Le Cat*, with whom I staid some
 “ days. He shewed me many anatomi-
 “ cal and other curiosities, but what
 “ pleased me most of all was the neat-
 “ ness, with the good government and
 “ practice of the Hospital where he pre-
 “ sided, who is an excellent Anatomist,
 “ Surgeon, and Operator. His merit has
 “ been distinguished by having a Doc-
 “ tor’s Degree conferred upon him, and
 “ he has established an Academy in his
 “ own House, to which many Students
 “ resort. Few have made themselves so
 “ conspicuous in respect to literature and
 “ the sciences, as well as in his profes-
 “ sion, as he has done; which his pub-
 “ lications upon various subjects evince.

The character
 of Monf. Le Cat
 M. D. C. Sur-
 geon-Major of
 the Hôtel-Dieu
 at Rouen.

“ Upon my departure from *Rouen*,
 “ which was with no small regret, I
 “ proceeded to *Paris* up the *River Seyne*,
 “ in a Barge well accommodated. This
 “ River

Of the plea-
 sant passage up
 the River Seyne
 from Rouen to
 Paris.

“ River in its course forms many beau-
 “ tiful little Islands, and the adjacent
 “ Country on each side of it being de-
 “ lightfully picturesque, made the pas-
 “ sage very agreeable.

“ I have now resided at *Paris* a confi-
 “ derable time, closely engaged in pur-
 “ suits for farther improvement in my
 “ profession, which were the motives
 “ that brought me hither.

“ I find that Surgery here is still more
 “ regarded than Physic, tho’ many emi-
 “ nent Physicians are now to be found in
 “ this fine City, where arts and sciences
 “ are cultivated and flourish under Royal
 “ Patronage.*

Surgery still
 in more repute
 at Paris than
 Physic.

“ The

* For some centuries great contentions and animosi-
 ties were kept up successively from age to age, between
 the Physicians and Surgeons at *Paris* as fully appear in
 the *Histoire de l’Origine & des Progres de la Chirurgie*
en France, published upon the Establishment of the Roy-
 al Academy of Surgery at Paris.

An evident
error in practice
of the French
Surgeons.

“ The Surgeons are excellent and dexterous Operators, and in general men of learning; but I cannot approve their practice of applying to the wounds immediately after amputations, &c. *Eau de vie*, i. e. *Brandy*, as ardent spirits obstruct digestion; and from this application I have observed bad consequences. †

“ The *Hôtel-Dieu*, the largest, and, perhaps, the worst built and governed Hospital in Europe, is situated near the centre of this great and populous City; into it are annually admitted about 20,000 patients, out of which at least a sixth part generally dies. It is
“ not

† In the last sixteen amputations which I performed, dressing the stumps in the plain, easy simple manner described in my Cases and Remarks in Surgery, I did not lose one patient; and in general no threatening symptoms supervened. Since my infirmities obliged me to desist from the operative part of Surgery, I have been concerned in many such operations, wherein that treatment was attended with the same happy success. These considerations make me think highly of the method, which I have strongly recommended to my Brethren.

“ not to be wondered that there should be
 “ such mortality, considering what num-
 “ bers are crowded together in bad wards,
 “ and often four or more in one bad bed;
 “ whence the air they breathe must be
 “ corrupted to such a degree, by effluvia
 “ from their morbid bodies, as to prove
 “ very destructive, and in a manner pes-
 “ tilential. †

The cause of
 the great mor-
 tality of the pa-
 tients in th Hô-
 tel Dieu at Pa-
 ris.

“ It is quite otherwise in the *Hospital*
 “ *de la Charité*, where I chiefly attend;
 “ here not more than about one in twen-
 “ ty dies. This is well ventilated, kept
 “ neat and clean and every thing in good
 “ order, under the regulation and ma-
 “ nagement

The Hospital
 de la Charité at
 Paris much com-
 mended.

† This Hospital having lately been burnt, may be
 considered as an happy accident; for probably the King
 of France will have the inconveniencies, very justly com-
 plained of, remedied in rebuilding it, which will well
 recompence the loss by preserving the lives of his poor
 subjects.

I have been credibly informed, that the largest and
 most magnificent structure for an Hospital in Europe is
 built or building at Lisbon, upon a plan drawn by Mr.
 Carr a famous architect at York; for which the King
 of Portugal rewarded him with princely liberality.

Character of
Monf. Faget,
Surgeon to the
Hôpital de la
Charité.

“ nagement principally of *Monf. Fa-*
 “ *get*, a Surgeon of great eminence, and
 “ a very humane, well bred, polite Gen-
 “ tleman: and sorry I am to tell you that
 “ is not the character of *Monf. B----u*,
 “ senior Surgeon of the *Hôtel-Dieu*; he
 “ is morose and seems to want the neces-
 “ sary feelings of humanity.

“ I visit this Hospital only upon par-
 “ ticular occasions, for many reasons,
 “ especially on account of the multitude
 “ of Barbers Garçons who flock hither;
 “ making the attendance very disagree-
 “ able, as well as the very early hour at
 “ which the Surgeons here do their bu-
 “ siness.

Two other
Hospitals under
good regulations
with the Sur-
geons belonging
thereto.

“ Here are two other well regulated
 “ Hospitals, which I frequently visit; in
 “ one of them the great *Monf. Morand*
 “ presides; in the other *Monf. Louis* is
 “ Surgeon, a young man of a very pro-
 “ mising genius, whose course of opera-
 “ tions I now attend. This has given
 “ me a fair opportunity of mentioning to
 “ him

“ him the use of your Retracter and successful method of Amputation above the knee, in order to prevent a projection of the end of the bone to which he adverted. *

“ I now also diligently attended the public lectures at *St. Côme*, given by *Monsr. Puzos*, upon Midwifery and some diseases peculiar to women, in the most judicious manner.

Of the lectures given at *St. Côme* by *M. Puzos* and his character.

“ I am

* I have had ample and satisfactory experience of this method for more than 30 years in patients of my own and other Surgeons, to convince me of the utility and advantage of it in preventing a conical stump.—See my Cases and Remarks in Surgery relative to Amputations, Edition II.

Doctor Kirkland of Ashby de la Zouch in Leicestershire, said in a letter to me lately. “ I have had opportunities of shewing several Surgeons in this and the neighbouring county, your method of amputating above the knee to prevent the inconvenience of a conical stump, with which they are very much pleased.—And I have the pleasure to observe the like advantage from this practice in the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital, where Mr. White’s improved method of amputating the leg with the flap promises success.

“ I am very happy in being personally
 “ acquainted with this eminent man. I
 “ have taken down the heads of his lec-
 “ tures in writing intending to put them
 “ into some better order at my leisure
 “ (having now much upon my hands) to
 “ shew you when I have the pleasure of
 “ paying my respects to you in Norfolk.
 “ In Midwifery, I think, he excells
 “ *Monf. Gregoire*, who has long been a
 “ celebrated teacher of this art at *Paris*,
 “ whose lectures I have also attended. †

† Since the death of *Monf. Puzos* his valuable Works
 have been published in Quarto, by *Monf. Morisot Des-
 landes D. R. de la Faculte de Medecine de Paris*; in which
 are contained three excellent Dissertations concerning
 Depositions of milk in lying-in women, and the great
 swellings often attending their thighs and legs in that
 situation, resembling those of an anasarcaous nature, which
 have not been considered sufficiently, by any other writer,
 as far as I can recollect.

Those Surgeons and Accoucheurs who are not ac-
 quainted with the French language, have reason to wish
 for a good English translation of this very useful practi-
 cal Book.

Copy

Copy of a letter relative to the treatment of compound fractures, which I have recommended in my Observations.

Halifax in Nova-Scotia,
June the 12th, 1768.

DEAR SIR,

“ The pleasure of your acquaintance
“ in London, and the advantages since
“ received by your publication, make me
“ most heartily congratulate you upon
“ the reception it very deservedly meets
“ with in the world: and, having an
“ opportunity of writing by a ship going
“ to England, I could not forbear trans-
“ mitting an account of the success I
“ have had lately, in a very bad com-
“ pound Fracture of the leg, by pursuing
“ your method, believing such commu-
“ nication must necessarily prove agree-
“ able to you.

A soldier,

“ A foldier, aged about thirty, received this accident laſt January. I was called to him immediately and found it neceſſary to dilate the wound and ſaw off between two and three inches of the whole ſubſtance of the Tibia much fractured, and the Fibula was fractured obliquely above two inches below the fracture of the Tibia.

“ The wound was dreſſed as you direct in your Obſervations; the whole limb was wrapped up in a poultice, extended upon a pillow, uſing the tailed bandage and a ſtiff paper caſe, with the aſſiſtance alſo of junks, in order to keep it ſtrait and more ſteady.

“ By the common treatment of the wound it was perfectly cicatrized in three months, and now, about five months ſince the accident, the callus is perfectly oſſified, the man in good health, the limb uſeful and well ſhaped and but very little ſhorter than the other.

“ I was

OBSERVATIONS.

82

“ I was very attentive in observing the
“ operation and progress of nature in
“ making good this loss of substance of
“ the bone, and before exfoliations were
“ cast off from the ends, a portion of the
“ bone being sawn off at each end, gra-
“ nulations appeared like flesh in the
“ intermediate space, gradually becom-
“ ing bone as you have observed. *

“ The advantages of this practice evi-
“ dently appear in its support; the free
“ openings and removal of pointed frag-
“ ments of the bone at first, prevent irri-
“ tation of the very sensible membranous
“ parts, whence proceed inflammation
“ and abscesses in consequence thereof:
“ and it was very pleasing to others as
“ well as myself, to observe what little
“ complaint the patient made, and how
“ expeditiously the cure was accom-
“ plished.

F

“ I am

* See my Cases and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II.
Page 285 and seq.

“ I am persuaded was this rational
 “ practice general, few limbs would re-
 “ quire amputation on account of splin-
 “ tered bones; and happy would it be
 “ indeed, did this method prevail uni-
 “ versally in the Army and Navy. †

“ I am with great respect,

“ Dear Sir,

“ Your much obliged

“ humble Servant

“ CHARLES HALL.

“ Surgeon to the 14th Regiment.”

A letter

† When I dwelt in Norwich, I was called into the country by a Surgeon in great business, expressly to assist in an amputation in consequence of an accident of this nature; to whom I proposed and recommended the method here mentioned; he readily assented to it, by which means the limb was saved, and made perfectly useful.—I am fully convinced of the propriety and utility of this treatment of compound fractures, from an uninterrupted series of successes attending it, having never been obliged to amputate a limb on such an occasion.

See my Cases and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II. concerning compound fractures.

*A letter concerning a compound Fracture,
attended with a profuse hæmorrhage from
the medullary artery.*

Shottisham, May 4, 1769.

DEAR SIR,

“ I was called two days ago to Mr.
“ Brewerton’s son of Hethell, on account
“ of a compound fracture upon his leg;
“ attended with a very profuse hæmorrhage. Upon enlarging the wound I
“ expected to have discovered the bleeding vessel, and secured it by needle and
“ ligature; but it eluding my search, I
“ sawed off a portion of the Tibia, which
“ projected, imagining I should find it
“ between that and the Fibula; then I
“ found the blood proceeded with great
“ impetuosity from an artery running in
“ the upper part of the cavity of the
“ bone. I tried various methods to stop
F 2 “ the

“ the blood without effect, only tempo-
“ rarily during pressure upon the end of
“ the bone, and have called my friend
“ Palgrave to my assistance. Not succeed-
“ ing in our endeavours, pray come with
“ Mr. Brewerton as speedily as the length
“ of the journey and your infirm state of
“ health will permit, for we apprehend
“ the patient's limb and life to be in
“ great danger.

“ I am,

“ Sir,

“ Your much obliged

“ humble Servant,

“ T. FULCHER.

After

After having considered every circumstance relative to this hæmorrhage, which proceeded from the medullary artery, not only running in the cavity of the Tibia, but being also encompassed by a distinct bony case like a quill, as discovered with the probe, I proposed to the consideration of these gentlemen the making two perforations adjoining, from the end of the bone, with a very small crown of a trephine, which I had made on purpose some years ago to perforate a carious Tibia. They concurred in this method and it was immediately put in practice, and brought the artery in view, which appeared to be nearly the size of a crow's quill. After this dry lint alone, with moderate perpendicular pressure, effectually answered the end, without any consequent bleeding, and the patient has an useful limb.

The method
by which this
hæmorrhage
was restrained.

In this singular case, the artery being attached to the distinct bony tube, could neither retract nor contract; nor was

A remark
worthy notice.

there any substance to be formed into an eschar by the actual cautery, or any other application to stop the hæmorrhage. ‡

A singular Case in which the Head of the Os Femoris was separated from the Neck by a fall.

In January 1765, a corpulent gentleman about fifty five years of age, fell off a ladder some yards from the ground, upon the great Trochanter, and was immediately deprived totally of the use of his limb. More than three months after the accident, I was consulted with his surgeon in ordinary, when I found him upon crutches; but without power or ability in the limb, to support any share of the weight of his body, or bring his foot

‡ I believe this may be considered as an unprecedented case, having made strict inquiry to this purpose of many Surgeons of Hospitals, and others in the greatest practice in different parts of the kingdom, who have assured me they never observed nor heard of one like it.

foot forward in order to make a step, without pain and difficulty, even with the assistance of his crutches. Observing then a considerable shortness of the limb, with such other circumstances, and appearances, as generally attend a fracture of the neck of the thigh-bone, I believed that to be the case.

After the strictest examination of the limb, and receiving an accurate relation from the patient, concerning his manner of falling and other circumstances no doubt remained upon my mind as to the nature of the case: however, as two Surgeons of character, who had attentively examined the limb together soon after the accident happened, positively declared they could discover no signs of fracture, or dislocation, and the Surgeon in ordinary now present being still of the same opinion, I thought it prudent in regard to myself, as well as for the greater satisfaction of the patient, to propose having the case circumstantially drawn up by us and sent to Mr. Pierce at Bath,

a Surgeon of the greatest eminence and integrity, who, from his long experience and practice there, I apprehended was the most competent judge, both as to the nature of the case, as well as to advise the most probable means of affording relief under the present alarming and threatening circumstances,

Mr. Pierce's
opinion.

This proposal meeting with the concurrence of the Patient and the Surgeon it was directly pursued: and Mr. Pierce in his answer gave his opinion, that it was a fracture of the neck of the bone, advising, at the same time, what he thought necessary to be done till he should be able to bear a journey to Bath, where he expected he might find relief.

Upon the gentleman's arrival there, Mr. Pierce confirmed his former opinion concerning the nature of the accident, and also gave farther expectation that bathing probably would prove beneficial, but in the event he was disappointed, according to his following letters to me,
which

which is not to be at all wondered at, considering the peculiar circumstances of the case, that appeared after the patient's death. *

On account of a bad state of health, which was brought upon this gentleman by a sedentary, inactive life, the reverse of what he had been accustomed to before this accident, he had recourse to Bath a third time, but without any hopes now of receiving advantage in respect to the debility of his limb, which remained quite useless; and there he died.

The Surgeon who now attended him, Mr Pierce being dead, was desired to open the limb, in order to discover the nature of the mischief; which he did in the presence of his Physician and Apothecary, and sent the head of the bone to his relations in the country, from whom I had it; and the following abstract

* See Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurg. Tom. 4. sur la Fracture du Col. du Femur, Par. Monf. Sabatier.

tract taken from the narrative sent with it signed by the Physician, the Surgeon, and the Apothecary, contains every material circumstance, relative to the state in which the parts appeared, at the time of the patient's death.

What appeared upon the Dissection.

See Plate I,
Fig. 1, 2.

After having laid the joint and the adjacent parts open and fairly in view, the neck of the Os Femoris was found separated from the head, in somewhat an oblique direction, lying in its acetabulum, with some fragments of cartilage broken off from the edge of it, and hanging by small portions of the lacerated capsular ligament. The cartilage which covers the head of the bone, and that which lines the acetabulum were eroded by acrid matter in many places. About four fifths of the broken irregular surface of the neck of the bone was forced upwards, and rested against the Os Ilium, where it was restrained in some measure

measure from going further, by a bridle from part of that ligament, but more by the resistance of the muscles. There was no coalition of the small parts of the broken surfaces which were in contact, nor the least appearance of callus; in the generation of which probably nature might have been interrupted by keeping the limb in motion, the case at first not being deemed a fracture, consequently the patient was put upon crutches too soon and encouraged to make use of them bearing upon the limb as much as he could, and this of course opposed the cure, and forced the bone higher up.

Du Verney and Ruysch, two very eminent Surgeons and Anatomists, have been too peremptory, as appears from undoubted more modern authorities, in asserting that the head of the Os Femoris is never thrown out of its Acetabulum, unless owing to some disease therein, or about the joint. It certainly does require, in general, a much greater force to dislocate the head of the bone than to fracture

fracture the neck of it, as may be concluded from its weakness there and position, and considering how securely the head is confined in the cavity, by the very strong round ligament, and the joint being encompassed with the burfal ligament and many strong muscles. †

R E M A R K S

Submitted to the consideration of my Brethren.

As the muscles act upon the bones, when their resistance is taken away or diminished in an oblique fracture of the leg, where both bones are broken, and more especially in such a kind of fracture of the thigh, for obvious reasons, the
limb

† See what Mr. Travis an ingenious Surgeon at Scarborough, says upon luxations of the thigh in the London Med. Observations and Inquiries, Vol. II. and Mons. Pouteau in his Dissertation upon this Subject in his *Mélanges de Chirurgie*, who is a Surgeon of great Repute and Merit at Lyons.

limb will consequently be immediately shortened, by the natural contractile power of the muscles: ‡ and when that action ceases and they become quiescent and inactive, or in a passive state, the supervening tumefaction of the parts will enlarge their diameters and in proportion increase their shortness, whence it necessarily follows, that one end of the bone will be gradually drawn over the other, upon some such mechanical principles, as a rope by being wetted will shorten and raise or draw a great weight.

An indeterminate point to be considered.

Hence it appears of great consequence to endeavour to prevent inflammation and tension at first, and, after gradually and gently extending the limb to its proper length, and dressing it as art directs, to apply some easy extending machine to counteract that force, without creating pain;

‡ The very learned Doctor Battie, in his *Exercitationes de Principiis Animalibus*, and the great Roman Professor, Baglivi, in his *Dissertation, De Fibra Motrice*, have demonstratively shewn the nature of muscular Fibres, &c.

pain; continuing the use of it till the callus has acquired a sufficient degree of firmness or solidity to resist it: but when we happen not to be called before tumefaction, &c. supervene, we must remove those accidents as speedily as we can, before we proceed in this manner.

In a fracture of the neck of the thigh-bone, besides some well adapted extending machine, it may be found very necessary to apply a plaster-compress or some other easy suitable pad of a sufficient thickness upon the part where the bone was thrown to, and have it well confined with a roller artfully turned, in order to assist in keeping the fractured parts more steady and in contact as much as possible.

Upon these occasions, and even in a fracture of the neck of the thigh-bone, I would recommend, from some experience I have had of its utility, the fracture-box mentioned at the conclusion of the chapter upon fractures, in the second Edition of my Cases and Remarks in Surgery,

Surgery, till some better contrivance shall be invented, it being an object worthy the particular consideration and attention of Surgeons of a mechanical genius. It certainly requires but very little force, in any machine properly and judiciously constructed and applied to answer this purpose effectually.

Besides that I have been mentioning, I have had my opinion asked, within two or three years, in three cases wherein the neck of the thigh-bone had been fractured in persons advanced in years, which had been overlooked for many months; and the patients were all deprived of the use of their limbs irrecoverably.

The bones of old people are more compact and brittle than in young, consequently require less force to break them, and more time to reunite them with ossific matter: and it is certainly not advisable to disturb such limbs with a view of preserving their natural motion, it being better to run the hazard of an Anchylosis, than no reunion by interrupting nature's operation for that purpose.

*Mr. Pierce's first letter concerning the
preceding case.*

Bath, Feb. 15, 1765.

DEAR SIR,

“ I have paid that attention to the
“ Gentleman's case which I shall ever do
“ to those commands you favour me
“ with, and give you my opinion with-
“ out reserve. It would be vanity in me
“ to imagine you could have any other
“ motive for applying to me, but that of
“ supposing my long residence here, may
“ have afforded me opportunities of see-
“ ing almost all kinds of bad-joint cases,
“ which sooner or later are brought hi-
“ ther. From the symptoms and circum-
“ stances of the case now under confi-
“ deration, which you have accurately
“ described, I make no doubt of its be-
“ ing as you apprehend, a fracture of the
neck

Symptoms of
a fracture of the
the neck of the
Os Femoris.

“ neck of the Os Femoris ; as the thigh
“ and knee turning outwards ; the limb
“ being much shortened and considerably
“ shrunk ; the pain felt in the course of
“ the Sartorius Muscle, which from its
“ origin and insertion must frequently be
“ put upon the stretch, often causing
“ pain on the inside just below the knee ;
“ and the crepitus which the patient
“ himself has been sensible of in moving
“ the limb.

“ This sort of fracture has been very
“ often overlooked even by able Sur-
“ geons, till time has produced symp-
“ toms demonstrating the fact beyond
“ dispute ; of which I have seen several
“ instances : and in some recent cases I
“ have endeavoured to preserve the na-
“ tural length of the limb by various
“ methods, but not to my satisfaction.

“ In the present state of this gentle-
“ man's case, I would recommend the
“ application of a warm strengthening
“ plaster, with a strong bandage and con-
“ finement,

“ finement, and to come to Bath when
 “ he is found in a condition to bear the
 “ journey, where, from the great expe-
 “ rience I have had in the efficacy of
 “ our waters in fimilar cafes, I have good
 “ reason to hope he will receive benefit;
 “ and, from my fituation, permit me to
 “ fay, my good Friend, that, perhaps
 “ more have come under my notice,
 “ than under any perfon’s in this king-
 “ dom; two of them happened by the
 “ power of the mufcles, twifting the
 “ neck of the bone afunder, without the
 “ patients falling to the ground; one of
 “ which was the late Duke of Portland,
 “ and his fervant caught him before he
 “ fell. The Surgeon who was imme-
 “ diately called on this occafion, pro-
 “ nounced the mifchief only a ftrain,
 “ concluding, from the manner of the
 “ accident happening, that it could be
 “ neither a fracture nor a luxation.

A cafe where-
 in the neck of
 the bone was
 twifted afunder
 by the fole pow-
 er of the
 mufcles.

“ The pain increafing and his Grace
 “ being fubject to arthritic and rheuma-
 “ tic complaints, the Phyfician then
 “ confulted

“ consulted was of opinion, as well as
 “ the Surgeon, that some such matter
 “ was fallen upon the part.

“ He had recourse to Bath many
 “ months after, and upon strictly ex-
 “ amining the limb then, I found it
 “ about four inches shorter than the
 “ other; with an exuberant Callus about
 “ the joint and an Anchylosis. Here
 “ our noble patient found as much re-
 “ lief as could reasonably be expected
 “ under such circumstances, and with a
 “ high heeled shoe and two sticks he
 “ was enabled to walk a little without
 “ much pain.

“ The other patient was a gentleman,
 “ of Bristol about 75 years of age. The
 “ Surgeons concerned, when we met in
 “ consultation, differed from me in opi-
 “ nion, and would by no means admit
 “ of the case being a fracture, for the
 “ reason assigned in the preceeding case:
 “ however, he died a few months after,

Another of a
 similar nature.

“ and the Surgeons opened the part, and
“ behaved to me with great candor, con-
“ fessing their mistake by letter.

“ I am much obliged to you for your
“ kind wishes for my health; but it is by
“ no means such as you, and a few sin-
“ cere friends, wish me; and I have but
“ little hope of amendment at 68; but
“ in every state and condition believe me,

“ My dear Friend,

“ Your's most sincerely,

“ and affectionately

“ JEREMIAH PIERCE.

Mr.

*Mr. Pierce's second Letter upon the same
occasion.*

Bath July the 21st, 1765.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

“ I know our friendship is upon such
“ a foundation, that you will put a fa-
“ vourable construction upon any seem-
“ ing neglect; indeed I should have
“ answered your last kind letter sooner
“ concerning our patient, but was wil-
“ ling first to be able to give you some
“ account to be relied on as to the effect
“ of our waters, with the probable event
“ in his case.

“ Upon strictly examining the limb
“ when he arrived here, and considering
“ all the symptoms you had well de-
“ scribed, I found not the least reason to
“ alter my original opinion. I resolved
G 3 “ to

“ to proceed with the utmost caution,
 “ as our waters have very active prin-
 “ ciples, as you found by experience in
 “ your own case, I therefore at first per-
 “ mitted him to use only the Cross-Bath,
 “ which is the most temperate, and
 “ then but for a short space of time at
 “ each bathing. As he seemed to re-
 “ ceive from hence some benefit, I was
 “ encouraged, after a few weeks, to ad-
 “ vise the use of the Queen’s and then
 “ proceed to the King’s Bath. Having
 “ pursued this method a proper time, I
 “ thought it advisable to try cold bathing,
 “ in order to recover the tone or elastici-
 “ ty of the weakened parts, and then I
 “ recommended sea-bathing, for which
 “ purpose he went to Yarmouth, and it
 “ concerns me to tell you that I have
 “ since received letters from him, not
 “ agreeable to my wishes and expectati-
 “ ons, yet, from what I have observed in
 “ such cases, am not still without hopes
 “ of his walking in length of time, with
 “ an underhand cane and a high heeled
 “ shoe, tho’ he must inevitably have a
 “ stiff joint.

It was not
 possible to know
 the true state
 of this case du-
 ring the patient’s
 life.

“ I find

“ I find you have taken the resolution
“ to die in harness, and may God prosper
“ all your undertakings. Without a
“ compliment I assure you I think the
“ whole Faculty obliged to you for your
“ publication, which you gave me the
“ pleasure of reading in M. S. and

“ I am, my good Friend,

“ Yours in all sincerity, &c.

“ JEREMIAH PIERCE.”

G 4. *Explanation*

Explanation of FIGURE 1.

- A. The head of the Os Femoris, shewing the manner in which it was separated from the neck, partly according to the course of the Epiphysis.
- B. The extreme point of the neck of the Os Femoris, describing how far it was thrown up and rested against the Os Ilium.
- C. A portion of the lacerated Capsular-Ligament, which might, in some measure, restrain the bone from being forced farther up.

FIGURE 2.

Shews the head of the bone broken off at the neck as represented in Fig. 1. with some fragments of cartilage together with bone, separated from the edge of the acetabulum, and hanging by small portions of the capsular ligament 1, 2, 3.

Fig. 1.

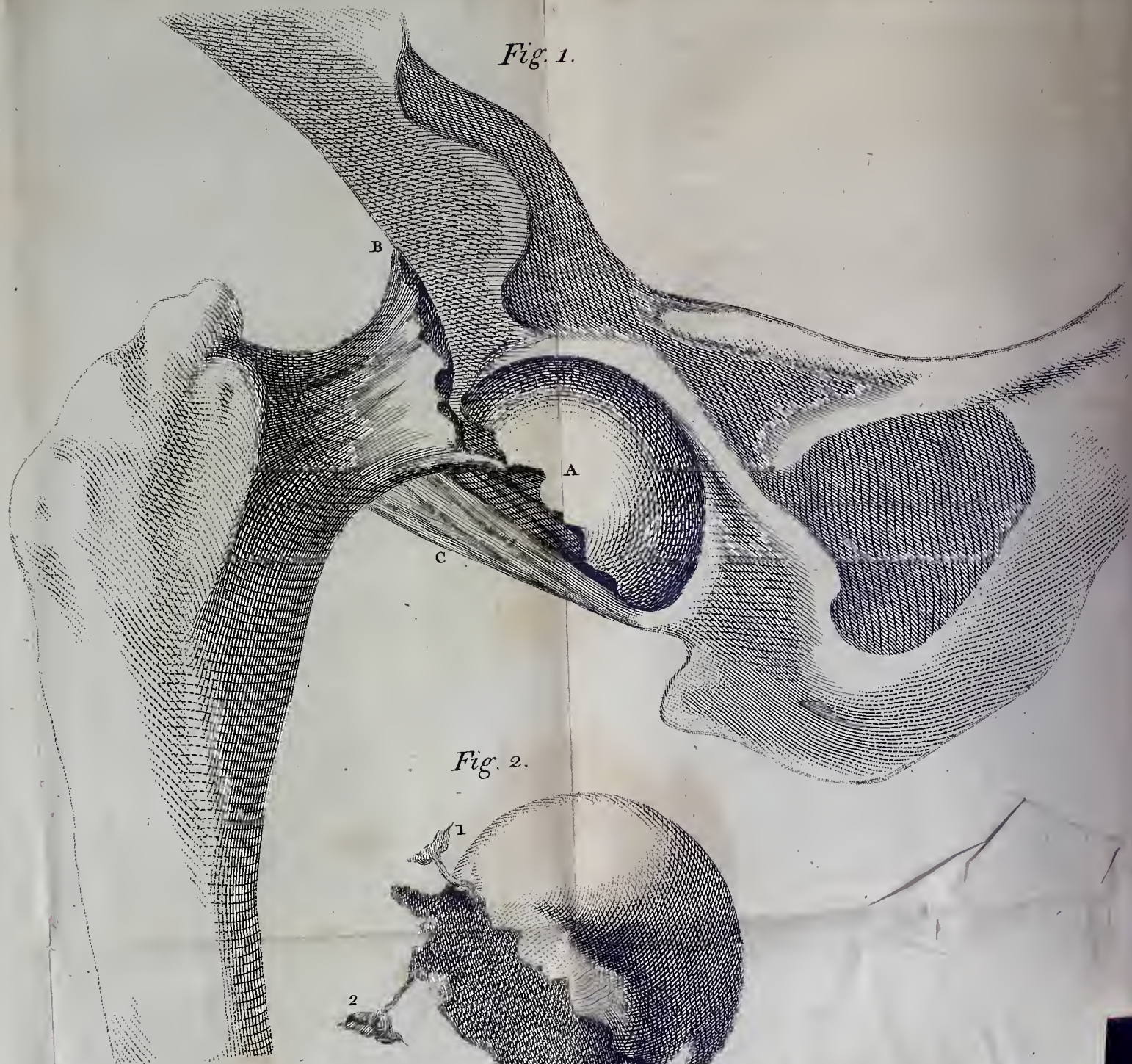
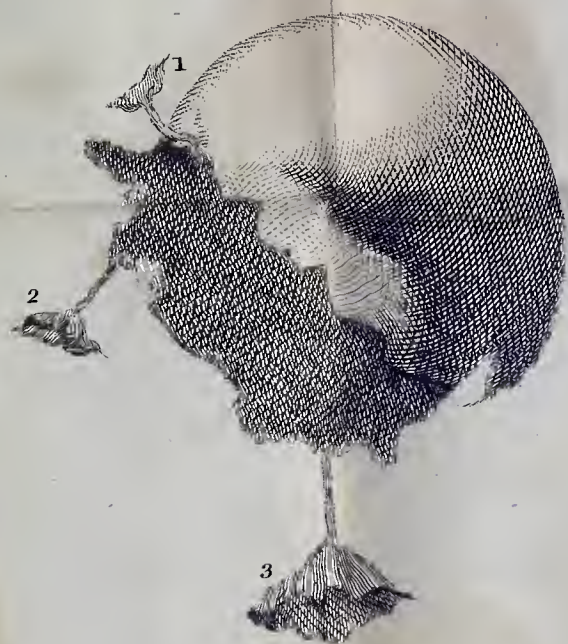


Fig. 2.





These papers were prepared for the press before I had an opportunity of reading Mr. Aitken's Treatise on Fractures. The use of my plain, simple Machine which he has partly adopted for extending a fractured Thigh, I have often successfully experienced without any such inconvenience ensuing as he apprehends may arise from the use of it; for the superior fixt point internally rests against the inferior part of the *Os innominatum*, which makes a good *Fulcrum*, where it requires to be well guarded to prevent galling, by an easy pad properly adapted: Hence it appears that no such strong pressure is demanded, as might interrupt the circulation of the blood productive of bad consequences.

The engraver has indeed justly incurred the remark which this Gentleman makes, by having expressed too faintly the joints in the pieces which connect the circulars in this machine, to correspond with the knee-joint; tho' I had as strongly described them in my sketch,

as

as in the extending machine appropriated to the Leg, represented in the same plate, to serve the like purpose of giving liberty to move the joint of the knee occasionally.

By the use of the Machine and Cases which I have recommended, I could safely change the position of the limbs without disturbing the fractures, as different occasions required in the cure of them: and by the addition of hooks and eyes to the sides of the pieces of the Machines, which connect the circulars, the knee-joint may be fixt to any degree of flexure that may be thought necessary.

In a fracture either of Leg or Thigh, I always placed a small pillow under the ham for ease, giving the joint by that means a little bend.

I am apprehensive from what I have observed, that in some cases, laying the limb sidewise may be attended with inconveniencies; but this point must be left

left to the discretion of the Surgeon according to circumstances: however, in compound Fractures, where there is a wound on the outside, that position is impracticable.

When I was in practice, I used to keep by me stiff paper of different thicknesses, having sheet-lead, such as tea is brought home in from the Indies, strongly glued unto it, to prevent its attracting moisture and losing its firmness, in order to form cases and splints, as the different sizes of limbs, and other circumstances should require, which may prove no bad substitutes to the more ingenious and judicious inventions and contrivances of some eminent Surgeons in London, &c. for the use of country practitioners, whom I have in view, thinking it no immaterial consideration.

As to the Bandage, which I have described upon the great *Monf. Petit's* plan, in his *Traité des Maladies des Os*, Chap. xv, for the *Tendo Achillis* when ruptured,

tured, or otherwise divided, I have also experienced its utility upon several occasions; but as this ingenious Surgeon very justly remarks, the application of it is rather troublesome, and requires to be made with particular care and attention, to make it fit easy upon the limb: besides, indeed it may not answer the design so well, as the Machine which he recommends; or that which the late great Professor Monro invented in his own case; but then here likewise the accommodation of Practitioners in the the country is to be considered, where good Mechanics are rarely to be found to procure such contrivances, and this useful Bandage can be easily provided upon such an emergency.

To answer the same purpose, I have confined one end of a strong strap of sticking plaster, of a suitable length and breadth, under a circular piece of the same about the middle of the sole of the foot, carrying it over the heel up the leg
and

and confining the other end above the calf with another circular plaster, first gently and gradually bringing down the Muscul. Gastrocnem. as far as they will readily yield; giving the limb, at the same time, the position described in my Treatise on wounds. On the like occasion I have also fixt one strap by the circular about the foot, and another by that above the calf of the leg, passing the one through a slit in the other, and using them as the uniting Bandage; but then two more circulars are requisite to confine the other ends of the longitudinal straps securely.

Either of these methods may effectually answer the end, with less trouble than the Roller used as has been mentioned; and they are obviously more practicable than that Bandage, where there is a wound to be dressed; then a few turns of a roller describing a figure of 8 about the joint will be sufficient, over an easy compress.

In

In fractures of the Patella, I have proceeded, much to my satisfaction, upon this principle, with straps of plaster, in order to resist the muscular force, and prevent the superior piece of the bone from being too far retracted.

Of an Ovarium, in which were contained many extraordinary appearances.

On March the 6th, 1771, a Gentlewoman consulted me, when she thought herself to be in the 5th month of gestation with her first child. She was of a delicate habit, 25 years of age, and had always been regular in her Catamenia, which appeared early. She gave me an account of her having felt, for some years, a tumor on the left side of her body, attended with an obtuse, but never an acute pain, low down and deeply situated in the Pelvis, according to her own description, which for some time she had been able to bring forward and high up
with

She was a very sensible intelligent woman.

with her fingers, and apprehended it was now in an increasing state very considerably. She also said she had frequent provocation to make urine, always making it in a small quantity, with a degree of pain and difficulty, and had sometimes been obliged to be relieved by the introduction of a catheter.

On account of her pregnant state I could not discover the tumor, with the most careful examination, but she so clearly described it, from her attentive remarks and observations, that after maturely considering every circumstance, I concluded it was an enlarged Ovarium, which might compress the bladder, or that there might be some disease in it, to obstruct the emission of the urine. This was the opinion I delivered to her husband, and her Surgeon in ordinary, whom I met in consultation.

This Surgeon not being an Accoucheur, an eminent one was called to her in the eighth month of gestation, when she was suddenly

suddenly alarmed in the night, with a considerable discharge of the Liquor Amnii, without any previous pain or accident; but, discovering no other signs of approaching labour, he did nothing, only enjoined rest, and she slept quietly the remaining part of the night without an opiate. Next day she sat up several hours, having no other symptoms than a small discharge of water upon motion, and a frequent inclination to make urine, which evacuation was attended as usual with a little pain and difficulty. On the third day she ventured down stairs, appearing rather better, and so continued till the 4th day towards evening, when she was seized with a rigor and great coldness of the extremities, which lasted an hour or two, and then were succeeded by a severe fever fit, attended with frequent vomiting of a dark coloured bilious matter. In this fever fit she complained of an intense heat, attended with pain and tenderness, extending all over the Abdomen, for which no means that the Surgeon could think of afforded any relief; she grew worse in all respects without any signs of being delivered, and

and he thought it not advisable to attempt delivering her entirely by force under these circumstances, fearing she might actually expire even in the operation. On the 7th day in the morning the pain and heat were greatly abated, but she had a very languid, intermitting pulse, denoting a mortification, in which it was apprehended the inflammation might terminate; soon after she became delirious, and died about six in the evening of that day.

The morning after her death, her body was opened, according to her own desire, and both the Surgeons were concerned in the dissection.

They found the Uterus mortified on the left side, with a Fœtus of a natural size and form contained in it, which they thought had not been dead many days, and nothing relative to that appeared preternatural. The Ovarium on that side was as large as a melon and of an oval figure, beginning also to be mortified. By opening its tunic, which resembled a thick leather bag, there

What appeared upon the dissection.

H issued

issued out a full quart of an atheromatous matter, in the middle of which was lodged a lump about the bigness of a turkey's egg, in substance like hog's lard, which melted as easily and was as inoffensive; it had a great quantity of brown hair intermixt with it, most in the middle, as appeared upon cutting through it. This substance was not enveloped in a distinct membrane, but was covered all over with hair, twisted and curled in a very wonderful manner, some of which exceeded a foot in length, and had evidently bulbous roots when viewed with a glass; some took root in the centre, others in different depths in this substance from the surface of it, as was discovered by sections in different directions, examined with the utmost attention; and from the inferior part proceeded a large, long string or rope of hair twisted together something like an Elf's Lock or the Plica Polonica. At the lower part of the Ovarium, were found two distinct irregular bones, in the lowermost of which was fixt a perfect incisive tooth, which proceeded

proceeded through that bone into a very thick membranous socket, formed between the coats of the Ovarium, with an imperfect tooth adjoining to it; and at a little distance from this bone, there was, in such another membranous socket, a complete canine tooth.

The Surgeons by whom I was favoured with the parts and the substance of this narrative told me they thought the Ovarium on the other side was preternaturally small; but that must be considered a doubtful point, as the size of these bodies in their natural state is very variable and indeterminate.

They took no notice of the Tub. Fallopian. or other uterine appendages; indeed they wanted time to perform the dissection, and to examine the parts with that accuracy which such a curious sub-

ject demanded, which seems unprecedented in some respects. *

The bladder was much contracted, but the liver and all the other abdominal viscera appeared in their natural state.

I had a long conversation with the Surgeons upon this subject, in order to obtain all the information I possibly could.

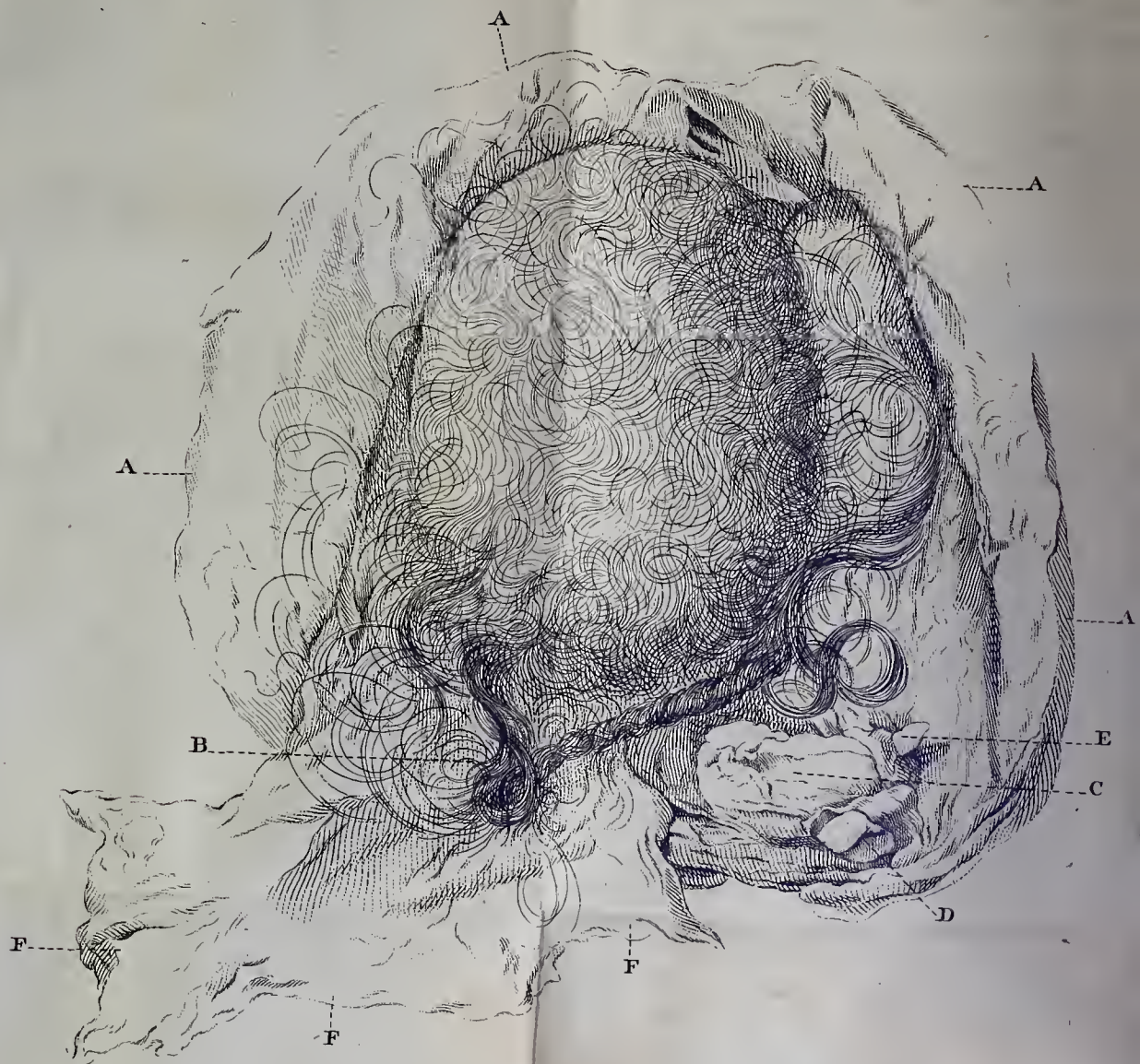
Explanation

* See Lowthorp's Abridgment of the Philos. Trans. Edit. iii. Vol. 3. and Jones's Abridgment of the same Vol. 5. Pag. 295 and seq.—The learned Doctor Tyson and Diemerbroeck in their works have also something relative to the subject.

Cornelius Stalpart Vander Wiel expressly says, that he, his Brother and another Surgeon, upon opening the body of a Girl of 15 years of age at the Hague, in the year 1682, found an Ovarium distended to the size of a goose's egg, with short hair upon it, and a small bone in it, without mentioning other circumstances.

Palfyn, in his Description anatomique des parties de la femme qui servent a la generation, has Swammerdam's fine and accurate plate, representing the Uterus and its appendages, dedicated to the Noble Tulpus.—Vide etiam Swammerdami notas in prodromum D. J. Van Horne Tract. de partibus generationis, et Regnerum De Graaf de organis generationi inservientibus.

Plassonius an eminent Professor of Anatomy at Padua, and another as considerable at Bologna, wrote learnedly more than a century ago, the one de partibus generationis utriusque sexus, and the other de Fœtu humano.





Explanation of PLATE 2.

The Drawing of which was accurately taken under my own inspection.

- A. A. A. A. The bag resembling leather, which was the proper tunic of the Ovarium greatly thickened, laid open its whole length to shew more clearly the substance therein contained, which was like hog's lard, covered all over with hair, curled and stragling beyond its edge, &c.
- B. A long string or rope of hair somewhat resembling an Elf's Lock, or the Plica Polonica.
- C. A bone having the periosteum separated from it the whole length.
- D. Another bone having a perfect incisive tooth passing through it into a thick membranous socket between the coats of the Ovarium, with an imperfect one adjoining to the perfect one.
- E. A perfect canine tooth, at a little distance from this bone, in such a kind of membranous socket, without any bone.
- F. F. F. The part of the Ovarium by which it was attached to the Uterus.

*Of unprecedented appearances upon the
Cuticula.*

In September, 1768, Mr. William Wright of Saham-Tony in the County of Norfolk Attorney at Law, consulted me upon another occasion, at the Rev. Mr. Parrott's, who is Rector of the Parish, and I then took a narrative of the following extraordinary case from himself.

He is in the 55th year of his age, his constitution rather weak and lax but had enjoyed throughout his life, a tolerable good state of health in general, till about ten years ago, when he was first seized, and often since, with such a peculiar kind of fever, that none of the medical Gentlemen of great experience, who were concerned for him at different times, knew by what name to characterize it. He is very susceptible of effects proceeding

ing from the alteration of the state of the air, and the disease has sometimes returned twice in a year attended with the same symptoms and consequences, upon having perspiration suddenly obstructed, and he observes it generally comes on under that circumstance.

Besides the common febrile symptoms upon the invasion of the disease, his skin itches universally, more especially at the joints, and the itching is soon followed by small red spots; then his fingers become stiff, hard, and painful at the ends and roots of the nails, where, in about 24 hours after, the cuticle begins to separate from the cutis, and in ten or twelve days this separation becomes general from head to foot; and he has many times turned the cuticle off completely from the wrists to his fingers ends like gloves, and also from his feet in the the same manner to the ends of his toes. His nails shoot from their roots gradually, as the new ones grow, in about six months, and the pain there decreases as

H 4

the

the separation of the cuticle advances; it rises in the palms of his hands and soles of his feet like blisters, but has no fluid under it; every where when it comes off it leaves the skin for some days exquisitely sensible.

Sometimes upon catching cold before he has been quite recovered, he has relapsed and had a second separation directly of the cuticle from the cutis; but then indeed so thin as to appear only like scurf, which shews the quick renewal of this part. †

When I saw him he had not had a violent return of this disorder since the year 1764, but several times in a slight degree,

† Monf. St. André an accurate Anatomist in his time, said he had discovered vessels with his injections in the cuticle, and told a Friend of mine so; but did not demonstrate what he asserted to the satisfaction of others; and, I believe that curious Observer of nature, Leeuwenhoeck, never pretended to such a discovery even by his glasses.

degree, bringing off the cuticle like scurf, proceeding from the cause which has been assigned.

Soon after I saw him, I had a long conversation on this subject with Mr. Swallow, a Surgeon of character at Watton, who confirmed this history, having frequently attended the patient and observed all the circumstances related. He has one of these cuticular gloves in his possession, and Mr. Wright brought a pair in his pocket when he came to me, and gave me one of them; saying, he had given away several to other persons to satisfy their curiosity; but tho' the matter of fact was so well authenticated, some people would not give credit to it.

When my very good friend Mr. Warner, F. R. S. Surgeon to Guy's Hospital, favoured me with a visit at my house in the year 1769, he asked me to let him have this curious glove, with a short history of the case, and both were presented by him to the R. S. and he acquainted me

me by letter soon after, that the singularity of the case had determined the Society to have an engraving of the glove, to be published with the history of the case in their Transactions, it appearing quite unprecedented. May not the separation of the Cuticle be caused by some febrile matter thrown off, affecting the Rete mucosum. ‡

History of an universal Emphysema, communicated to me by an eminent Surgeon of my acquaintance, who made minutes of the case at the time when the accident happened, on account of its singularity.

A lad about 14 years of age driving a cart through a gateway, and the horses turning quick, threw him with great violence against an iron catch in the gatepost, between the 4th and 5th ribs; by which means the intercostal muscles and the pleura were lacerated, yet without making a wound through the skin.

I was

‡ At Mr. Warner's request on my behalf, the Society favoured me with the use of their Plate on this occasion.



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te.III.

I was called to him 3 or 4 hours after the accident happened, and found him in a most deplorable condition indeed, apparently ready to expire. By the strictest examination I cou'd not discover a fractured rib, whence I apprehended some air-vessels might be ruptured in the lungs, and that air probably might proceed from thence through the lacerations of the pleura and intercostal muscles, and, being stopped by the skin, was diffused in the cellular membrane throughout the whole body quite from head to foot, which was the condition I found him in, after this short space of time. His face was so inflated that his eyes were entirely closed; his nose could scarce be perceived, which was almost level with his cheeks.

Under these circumstances I proposed making an opening into the thorax immediately, as the most advisable and rational step to be taken; but his friends obstinately opposed all the arguments I could think of, to shew the propriety of it, even that the preservation of his life depended

A very rational method proposed, but rejected by the patient's relations.

depended upon it in all appearance. I was suffered now to perform no other operation than bleeding, which I could not do, till I had pressed up the air towards the shoulder and also downwards, confining it there with bands, before I put on the ligature in order to bleed him; without which precaution, I might have thrust my lancet in almost its whole length, and not have reached the vein, had that, by the ligature, been sufficiently compressed. He bled freely, after which I left him and ordered a laxative medicine, an emulsion with spermaceti and a pectoral decoction, with the strict observance of a proper regimen, &c.

The method
at first proposed
consented to, and
the consequen-
ces,

I visited him again next morning and found him evidently worse in all respects, which induced me in the strongest terms and more earnestly, to recommend the opening I at first proposed, which was now consented to.

Upon making the opening into the
'Thorax, between the ribs where the in-
jury

jury was received by the catch in the gate-post, as soon as the knife entered, rarefied air came rushing out violently, and a great quantity of a hot, bloody fluid along with it. Having made an ample aperture, I dressed superficially, in the gentlest manner and applied an easy bandage, directing him to lie on the affected side, in order to favour the discharge of the extravasated fluid.

When I visited my patient next day I found there had been an immense discharge from the wound, that he breathed easier and that the inflation was universally much subsided. These favourable circumstances gave me some hopes of a happy event; but upon my visit the day following, the scene was changed, the discharge was very foetid, his pulse and breathing very bad, which destroyed all the hopes I entertained the day before, and the next day he died.

Upon

Upon examining the parts after death a lacerated wound was discovered in the lungs, but no fractured rib. *

We drew up this case together as it now stands from the Surgeon's minutes.

A case in which air contained in the cavity of the Thorax, produced symptoms of an Emphyema.

I was consulted on this occasion, with a Physician and a Surgeon in the county of Suffolk. The patient was about forty years of age, and in consequence of peripneumonic symptoms his lungs became ulcerated, and he had long expectorated purulent matter, attended with great difficulty of breathing; he had also a constant pain in his left side of small extent;

* See an extraordinary case of an Emphysema in the London Med. Observations and Inquiries, communicated by Doctor Hunter, occasioned by a fractured rib, and cured in the manner he directed.

tent; and whenever he turned himself from one side to the other, he was very sensible of the motion of some fluid, which fluctuation was heard as well as felt by himself, and sometimes also heard by those about him.

From these symptoms and considerations we were unanimously of opinion, that matter floated upon the Diaphragm, making it advisable to perform the operation for an Empyema, particularly on account of the fixt pain, as has been mentioned, which was often to a very great degree, especially when he coughed. On making the incision directly upon the painful part, which was between the 6th and 7th ribs, as soon as the knife entered the cavity of the Thorax, rarified air, and nothing else, came rushing out, with an audible, sibilous noise which was heard by all of us. Immediately after this operation, tho' no purulent matter was discharged, yet he could lie upon either side, without
increase

increase of pain or difficulty of breathing, which he could not do before; however, all things considered, we could not doubt of the case ending in a Marasmus.

In this case air must escape through some aperture in the lungs, by the air-vessels, into the cavity of the Thorax, and there rarify, producing the complaints, which we ascribed, before the operation, to purulent matter therein contained.

The patient lived several months after the operation, without having any return of pain or sensation of a fluctuating fluid as before; nor was there the least appearance of matter proceeding from the lungs or cavity of the Thorax through the wound, which was kept open several weeks, in expectation of such a discharge.

The aperture in the lungs, which we believed admitted the air to pass into the cavity, certainly closed, as he never after
the

the operation, even when the wound was perfectly healed, had any return of symptoms, that evidently proceeded from the rarefaction of the air in the Thorax, according to what we have observed.

Leave could not be obtained to investigate this matter, after the patient's death.

At the time when the operation was performed, we could with our fingers feel some hard tubercles upon the lungs, but found very little adhesion of them to the pleura within reach of the finger. †

† See what is mentioned concerning air being contained in the Thorax, communicated by Mr. Hewson, in the London Med. Observations and Inquiries, Vol. III. Vid. Boneti Anatom. practic. Lib. II. Sect. I. Observat. 54. & Schol.

Of a very large encysted lymphatic tumor, which was happily extirpated at the Heckingham-House of Industry in the County of Norfolk.

In November, 1768, I attended a consultation at this House, by the express desire of the Governors and the Surgeons, in order to consider of the propriety or impropriety of performing an operation on this occasion, which had been deemed extremely dangerous by several Surgeons, before the patient was admitted into the House.

She was about 35 years of age and not of a good habit. About three years before, after a lying-in, she took notice of a small tumour on the right side of her body towards the inguen, which raised a suspicion of its being a Hernia at first. It gradually increased and extended downwards, adhering to the Labium Pudendi.

Pudendi and Anus, turning about in a curve, having a figure and form much resembling the stomach, which ended upon the middle of the hip.

Our consultation was very agreeable, consisting of four Surgeons besides myself. We looked upon it as an en ysted tumor of the lymphatic kind, degenerating into a cancerous state. After strict examination of the parts, and deliberately considering every circumstance, we thought it might be extirpated with safety, as it was not yet fixt to the subjacent parts; but were unanimously of opinion, that the cure of the wound was very precarious: however, as there was no prospect of preserving her life or affording her relief, by any other means, the operation was approved, and then judiciously performed, by Mr. Lewis a Surgeon of eminence at Bungay in Suffolk, she having been duly prepared for it, in case it should be thought advisable in our consultation.

A remark
worthy of atten-
tion.

Great care was taken to secure the arteries, by needle and ligature, as the operator proceeded carefully dissecting, by which precautions the effusion of blood was but small, considering the size and extent of the tumor, which weighed between five and six pounds.

No ill accident happened in, or in consequence of, the operation; the wound digested and healed kindly, and the patient left the house with it perfectly cicatrized in about ten weeks, as Mr. Lewis informed me; tho' not free from other complaints, and among the rest she had a Bronchocele, which did not pass unnoticed in our consultation.

I was concerned the year before in an operation of the same kind. The tumor was situated upon a woman's thigh, in consequence of an accident received ten years before. It extended from a few inches above her knee near to her body, and measured full a yard in circumference.

rence. By the same precautions that have been mentioned, we did not here lose more than a pound of blood in the operation: and in both cases, by a wary dissection, the cysts were not opened.

This tumor weighed between twelve and thirteen pounds; the contents of it were inspissated lymph of the consistence of brains, and when contained in the cyst much resembled the brain in the Dura Mater. Dr. Hay of Ipswich and Dr. D'Urban of Halesworth were present at this operation.

The cicatrix in this case remained firm more than a year, and our patient walked about her business; then, upon having a feverish disorder, it broke out in the upper part of it, and became a cancerous ulcer, throwing out large fungous excrescences before she died, as I was informed by the Surgeon concerned for her.

In both these cases the operation should have been performed much sooner. ‡

Of Bronchoceles.

I have had my opinion asked in a great number of tumors of this kind; and cannot recollect an instance of their endangering life, even when enlarged to a very great size.

It is said, that in some parts of this kingdom, there are persons who undertake to cure this disease; and some years ago I had a letter upon this subject from a Surgeon of character at Coventry, written in a very modest and sensible manner, wherein he acquainted me he had sometimes succeeded: But, for my own part, I must ingenuously confess, the various methods I have tried to disperse these

‡ See Mons. Quesnay's Mem. sur les Vices des Humeurs relative to this subject, prefixt to the first Vol. of the Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurgie.

these swellings, even in a recent state and moderate size, have been defeated; * and I never durst venture to attempt the cure by excision, on account of the vicinity of the large blood-vessels.

I was once indeed prevailed upon to be present at such an operation, where the tumor was of a very large size, and the patient's blood in a thin, depauperated state.

History to discourage excision.

Before I went the operation was resolved upon, in a numerous consultation, and all I could do was to shew my fears and apprehensions of what would probably attend it, declaring, that were it a patient of mine I would not attempt it.

The Surgeon was a good and intrepid operator; but before he had half finished the operation, there was such an effusion

I 4 of

* I have talked with many eminent Hospital Surgeons upon this Subject, and they express themselves in the same manner, who have the best opportunities of improving our art, and making useful discoveries.

blood, as obliged him to desist, and turn his whole attention to restraining the hæmorrhage, or, in the opinion of all present, the patient would have sunk and died under his hands. She died in less than a week and, I was informed, the blood was never totally stopt. The unhappy event naturally brought the reputation of all the Surgeons concerned in question.

Another History to the same purpose,

I remember another case of this kind, in which my opinion was asked jointly with that of an excellent Surgeon in the country, my particular Friend, † and the operation was performed against our judgment, by one of the ablest Surgeons and most dexterous operators in London, which was very near ending in a fatal hæmorrhage. The young Lady's life was preserved, only by having a succession of persons to keep a constant pressure upon the bleeding vessels day and night for near a week with their fingers upon

† Mr. Cooper late of Bungay in Suffolk.

upon proper compresses, after the Operator had been repeatedly disappointed in the use of the needle and ligature, &c. as his pupil assured me who attended this case.

I may here add a third similar case, wherein I was consulted, in which the Surgeon concerned discovered an earnest desire to attempt extirpation; but I as earnestly urged the arguments I have assigned, which dissuaded him from so dangerous an operation.

This disease is very frequent in Switzerland, and in the neighbourhood of the Alps, which made Juvenal say,

Quis tumidum guttur miratur in Alpibus? ‡

A case

‡ I have been told by Gentlemen who have been in Switzerland, that this tumor in the throat, called *Gouttiere*, is far from being there looked upon as a personal deformity.

A case wherein matter had been confined in the Maxillary sinus, attended with some uncommon circumstances.

Some years ago I was consulted in this case, with a Physician and two Surgeons, for a Gentleman about 60 years of age. This complaint proceeded from a bad fever, and his health in general was much impaired. The symptoms evidently declared the nature of the disease; and the matter had forced its way thro' one of the nostrils. After considering the circumstances, we agreed to make an opening forthwith, in the usual manner, into the Sinus, for the free discharge of the matter.

The patient had lost all his teeth in this part of the jaw-bone, the sockets of which were filled with a boney substance, and by strict examination we found the bone carious. Upon the eligible

gible part for making the perforation he could not bear an instrument for that purpose, without causing exquisite pain and obliging him to throw his head backwards violently, in a convulsive manner. This prevented our proceeding in the operation as intended, and determined us to cut down to the bone on the side with the point of a knife, and bore into the Sinus with a gimblet; which method was easily effected, and answered the end, tho' not quite so well as the other would have done, in giving a discharge to the matter, with the opportunity of using injections, &c. as the rules of Surgery directed. The opening was preserved, sometimes with a leaden cannula well adapted to it with ears, and sometimes with a piece of bougie, having a ligature affixed to it to prevent its slipping into the cavity, and in a reasonable time,

time, by the assistance of the Physician's prescriptions, the patient recovered a good state of health.*

Of a tumor upon the region of the stomach, which in length of time burst of itself, and thro' the opening the aliment passed, the patient living and walking abroad some months after.

In May 1768, Mr. Aldrich a Surgeon at Halesworth desired me to visit with him, Mrs. Tovell of Wenhaston, about 60 years of Age, of a very thin and delicate habit.

More

* This case occurred before the fourth Vol. of the *Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurgie* was published at Paris, in which mention is made of one treated in the like manner, having a plate annexed describing the operation, by *Monf. Bordenave* in his *Observations sur les Maladies du Sinus Maxillaire*.

Since this I have been concerned in another case of this nature, which had been of 5 years standing, where there was a large opening into the nose, with an extensive caries of the bones; which was perfectly cured by the treatment described in my *Observations*, Edit. II. by making an opening into the Sinus the extent of the *Alveoli* of three teeth, cutting away their partitions immediately after extracting the teeth.

More than 20 years before, in consequence of a slight external injury, which was at first disregarded, she was subject to transient pains in the epigastric region, never violent nor confined to one spot, but mostly towards the left side. In this state she remained about ten years, when she was seized with a violent fever, in which the pains increased, and a small flat tumor appeared over the bottom of her stomach, without any external inflammation, or throbbing; the pain upon pressure was not augmented, nor had she any complaint in her stomach at this time.

Tho' the tumor did not subside when the fever went off, yet she then recovered her former state of health, rather valetudinary; and thus she continued 10 years longer, having very little more uneasiness

uneasiness in the tumefied part than in the abdomen in general, where she had before complained at times; but never to any great degree. Now a fever arising upon catching cold, the tumor enlarged and inflamed, still was attended with but little pain; however, in a few days it burst open, discharging some of the aliment that was in her stomach outwardly, there being an adhesion of it to the *peritonæum*. The next day I visited her with Mr. Aldrich, and my worthy friend Mr. Lynn of Woodbridge being then with me, he went with us about six in the evening. Upon removing the dressings, the food she had taken that day for dinner, consisting chiefly of Mackarel, came pouring out upon respiration, through the spontaneous opening now grown pretty wide. We applied Puff-Ball carefully to the aperture and confined it with strips of common plaster, easy compress and a flannel bandage, in order to prevent the escape of the aliment all we could, desiring she would make her diet consist

consist of the softest and most nutrimental things, that would in the easiest manner be converted into nourishment ; as bread-pudding, gellies, sago, saloop, &c. to be taken often in small quantities to avoid too much distention of the stomach, injoining rest in a supine posture for obvious reasons ; and that recourse should also be occasionally had to nutritive clysters : however, notwithstanding these injunctions which we strongly urged, when I visited her again three days after, I found her abroad about her business as usual, and then actually feeding her young chickens sitting upon the ground ; for which inconsiderate act I very earnestly reproved her. She now told me, that but little of what she took came through the opening ; that the dressings, compress and bandage sat easy and answered their end very well ; that her food agreed with her stomach ; that she had no sickness, and that she had the benefit of a stool naturally every day as she used to have.

Before

Before I left Halesworth, being then at Doctor D' Urban's, I saw her dressed several times, observing no ill appearance in the ulcer, and that but very little aliment passed through it. Afterwards I was informed she took a sufficient quantity of nourishment to support her, without losing flesh, and that nothing unfavourable occurred in this extraordinary case, till the latter end of August, when, through negligence, she caught cold and a violent fever ensued. After the danger of this fever was apparently over, she relapsed in consequence of farther indiscretion and forfeited her life.

What appeared upon dissection in this case.

Doctor D' Urban, who had visited her also, attended the opening of her body with the Surgeon. The liver was considerably enlarged and had forced the stomach too much to the left side; but they observed nothing else remarkable in the dissection, only a firm adhesion of the *stomach, liver,* and *peritonæum*, about the aperture: and it was their opinion, that with her own
prudent

prudent care, her days might have been prolonged, had not the ulcer been perfectly healed. The adhesion of the *stomach* to the *Peritonæum* was the evident means of her preservation, upon the rupture of the tumor, by preventing the aliment, &c. from falling into the cavity of the Abdomen. *

*Of the singular good effect of Merc. sublim.
corrosiv. in a cancerous case.*

In June, 1766, a Gentleman's wife of a delicate habit, aged 45, consulted me concerning a most alarming complaint, contracted by inadvertently putting a pipe into her mouth and blowing it clean, immediately after her sister had used it, in sucking down some aliment, that being the only way she was able to take any on account of a cancerous ulcer

K

passing

* Relative to this case, see in my Treatise on wounds, an account of some of various kinds inflicted on the stomach.

passing quite through into the mouth under her lower jaw. She was almost instantly sensible of a twinging near the tip of her tongue, and soon after in her lips and most parts of her mouth. In a short time her husband complained of the like sensation in his lips, &c. which proceeded only from kissing her. †

Various methods were tried first at home, then in London and abroad under the ablest practitioners, but all to no purpose, the disease gaining ground under all of them.

After two years she returned from Brussels to England on account of some emergent domestic affairs, and her husband went to Paris to consult the Faculty there.

When she came to me she had deep, spreading ulcers in her tongue, sides of
her

† Turner says, that Mr. Smith, who was Surgeon to St. Thomas's Hospital, lost his life in consequence of his imprudent curiosity, by touching with his tongue, the fluid proceeding from a cancerous gland, after taking off a breast so diseased.

her mouth, tonsils and fauces; from the appearance of which, and the history she gave me of her case, I could not doubt of its nature; besides I had once seen her sister in her calamitous condition. She was a person of singular judgment and understanding, and after having given me an accurate and circumstantial account of what had been done for her without any advantage, and her saying she was well assured sublimate had not been given her, I proposed the use of that to her consideration in very small doses, to be persevered in for some months. She approved my proposal and took a lodging near me; and after bleeding and gentle purging, I prescribed it in the following manner, ordering one of the draughts to be taken morning and night.

R *Merc. sublimat. corros. gr. fs*

Aq. Cinnam. simp.

puræ a ℥iij

f. solutio in mortario vitreo & add.

Tinct. thebaic. gutt. xx.

f. Haust. iv.

K 2

I added

I added the Tinct. thebaic. to make the sublimate sit easier upon the stomach, having often observed without this precaution, its disagreeing both with that and the bowels, especially when taken in larger doses.

In this course she proceeded with great regularity; drinking a Decoction prepared with Guaiac. Saffas. China & Sarsaparilla, with a small portion of milk added to it, for common drink.

She washed her mouth and throat frequently with barley water sweetened with Mel rofac. dissolving in a pint of this gargarism two or three grains of the sublimate.

She observed an exact regimen, taking nothing of a heating or poignant nature, and took now and then a cooling purge.

By this method she was soon evidently better, and perfectly cured in about six months, without any return of the disorder;

der; and now enjoys as good health as she had done for many years before.

She had a great many decayed teeth and stumps, all which were extracted to prevent irritation.

What method was taken with her husband at Paris we could not learn; but there he died in about three months.

After she had found some amendment, she wrote to him in the most pressing manner to come to her; but he was then in too weak a state to bear such a journey: and it would have been running the greatest risk of her own life to have attempted going to him in her condition.

I should have mentioned, that for some considerable time, I ordered a dose of Extract of the Bark to be taken twice a day, *horis medicis*, and a draught of the Decoction before mentioned after it, as an universal corroborant in her weak, relaxed state: and that after using the

K 3 gargarism

gargarism as mentioned a little time, I increased the quantity of sublimate, but not to a degree to give uneasiness to the parts, and added to it about one third of aqua calcis. ‡

Of cancerous Diseases.

The following short description and plain practical account of *Cancers*, with the treatment of them both in their occult and open state, from my own remarks, observations, experience, &c. may

‡ Concerning the use of *Merc. Sub. corrosiv.* in carcinomatous or phagedænic ulcers, see what *Professor Whytt* has communicated in the *London Med. Ob. and Inquiries*, Vol. II. and also what *Doctor Akenfide* has written about its efficacy in cancerous cases, in the *Med. Transactions of the College of Physicians*.

In several instances I have seen singular good effects from this mercurial preparation, by long and regular perseverance in some obstinate cutaneous complaints.

We were greatly disappointed here in England, by *Doctor Storck* in his account of the efficacy of *Cicuta* in the cure of *Cancers*; tho' it was supported by the authority of the late illustrious *Baron Van Swieten*, and other eminent men at *Visnna*.

may not prove unacceptable to the unexperienced; for the benefit of their patients in the most formidable and deplorable disease that human nature is subject to, when it will not admit of cure by manual operation.

A *Cancer*, according to the acceptation of the word in a medical sense, signifies a hard, unequal, painful tumor, of a dusky purple or livid complexion; and why it is so called will presently be shewn.

There have been many distinctions of *Cancers* made by medical Writers, which are comprised in the occult and ulcerated.

Sometimes an eroding ulcer, without such a previous tumor, is called a *Cancer*, and by some, with no impropriety, a *Canker*, as this word imports a disease proceeding from an humour of a corrosive nature: and sometimes small appearances upon the skin like warts, without pain at first, turn cancerous.

A cancerous tumor, commonly has a small beginning, gradually increasing from an obstruction in some glandular body, whether from an internal or external cause, and is often attended with a tickling or itching sensation : and during its indolent state, without having the color of the skin altered, it has the appellation of a *Scirrhus*. *

In

* Under these circumstances, various internal and external medicines are recommended to resolve it, as Mercurials, &c. which require great caution in their use.

Vinegar alone, or with crude sal ammoniac dissolved in it, has been thought efficacious by some from their powerful attenuating qualities.

A genuine original *Scirrhus*, in which lymph is strongly impacted, seldom admits of resolution by any means; but generally terminates in a *Cancer*, unless timely extirpated.

After having dissected out several such scirrhous tumors, I have found their interior substance like an hard unripe apple, thin slices of which being boiled in water had an horney appearance when cold and dry, and the water they were boiled in became glutinous.

Sometimes glandular obstructions in the breasts produce tumors resembling a true *Scirrhus*, which will, in length of time, inflame, suppurate and end favourably by opening.

I have

In many instances it is difficult to determine from appearances, when the transition out of the scirrhus into the cancerous state happens; and its progress is quicker or slower from the one to the other, from various incidental and concurring causes.

When the tumor is attended with a peculiar kind of burning, shooting pains, and the skin has acquired the dusky, purple, or livid hue, it may then be deemed a *malignant scirrhus*, or a *confirmed Cancer*.

When thus far advanced, in womens breasts, the tumor sometimes increases
speedily

I have been concerned in some such cases; but I must ingenuously confess, that, after the utmost attention, I cannot give the discriminating signs with precision enough to be depended on in the beginning; tho' probably even then the genuine Scirrhus may have a more stoney hardness to the feeling, to direct our judgment in some measure; however it may be most advisable to dissect out these tumors early in a benign state, rather than run the hazard of their degenerating into *Cancers* also, from latent causes beyond our penetration.

speedily to a great size, having a knotty, unequal surface, more glands becoming obstructed; the nipple sinks in, varicous or turgid veins are conspicuous, ramefying far about resembling a *Crab's Claws*, whence it derives the name of *Cancer*: and *Paulus Ægineta* includes the whole appearance of the *Crab-fish* in his description of this tumor.

These appearances are the characteristics of an occult Cancer on the external parts, and we may suspect the existence of one internally, when such heat and pain as has been described, succeed in parts where the patient has before been sensible of a weight and pressure attended with obtuse pain. †

There is no part of the body, internal or external which is exempt from this grievous disease; but the glandular parts are most liable to it for obvious reasons,
as

† Vid. Commentaria illustrissimi Baronis Van Swieten in Aphorismos celeberrimi Boerhaavii de Scirrhus et Cancro.

as the fluids cannot pass through them so uninterruptedly in the course of circulation, on account of their convoluted vascular structure: For this reason it is most frequently observed upon the breasts of women, which principally consist of glands.

The testes, penis, uterus, and all the genital parts of both sexes, the mesentery intestine, rectum, bladder, &c. are often affected with it. I have also seen it upon the eyes, nose, lips, tongue, fauces, and the adjacent glandular parts: and two such cases have come under my notice upon the thigh and two upon the arm, of which only one was perfectly cured by extirpation: in one of the other the wound was healed, but the cicatrix soon opened again; then excrescences like the heads of colly-flowers sprouted out, and the patient died miserably, without any prospect of saving his life by the loss of his limb.

In

In one of the other cases it was thought advisable in consultation to propose amputation of the thigh, but the patient would not consent to it. ‡

A cancerous tumour never melts down in suppuration as an inflammatory one does, the obstruction lying in the minute lymphatic vessels. When it is ready to break open, especially in the breast, it generally becomes prominent in some point, attended with an increase of the peculiar kind of burning, shooting pain, commonly

‡ Vid. Hildani Opera Observat. 1. Cent. 1. & Observat. 88. Cent. 3. in respect. to extraordinary cases of this nature upon the eye and penis.

I have lately been consulted in two such in the intestine rect. and the patients died in the utmost distress soon after.

Some years ago a bladder entirely scirrhus was taken out of a boy about 8 years old and sent me, resembling the gizzard of a fowl, the cavity of which would not hold a spoonful of urine, and in it were found two stones. I presented Mr. Warner, whom I have before mentioned with this curiosity. Had Lithotomy been performed, as was proposed, it must have had a fatal event.

commonly felt before at intervals in a less degree, and deeper in the body of the gland or glands, probably occasioned by some lymphatic fluid there contained becoming acrid and irritating; tho' this fluid in its natural state is very soft and inoffensive, till altered with long residence in any part by intestine motion.

In the prominent part of the tumor, in this state, a corroding ichor sometimes transudes through the skin, soon forming an ulcer, at other times, a considerable quantity of a thin lymphatic fluid tinged with blood from eroded vessels is found in the tumor. *

Ulcers

* Tumors of the Scirrhus, Cancerous, or Strumous nature proceed originally from lymph obstructing the glands as I have proved to a demonstration by experiments: and also that the contents of the Steatoma, Meliceris, and Atheroma are lymph in different degrees of inspissation.

These tumors are thought to be of the strumous family, which sometimes also put on cancerous appearances; and under such circumstances I have successfully eradicated some by incision.

Very

Ulcers of this nature discharge a thin, fetid, acrid sanies, which corrodes the parts having thick dark coloured retorted lips: and fungous excrescences frequently vegetate from these ulcers, notwithstanding the corrosiveness of the humor. In this state they are often attended with excruciating, pungent, lancinating, burning pains, and sometimes with bleeding. These are the common and principal appearances

Very lately I was concerned in extirpating a tumor of this nature about the size of a walnut situated below the eye. The operation was attended with a very considerable hæmorrhage, which was effectually restrained with a piece of the finest sponge, exactly adapted to the wound, and moderate pressure.

See what is said upon scirrhus and cancerous, or carcinomatous tumors in the *Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurg.* Tom. 1, 3, 4. and Tom 1 of the *Prize Mems.* of that illustrious Society, to which Surgery is greatly indebted. What Le Dran has written upon this subject, also deserves attentive reading and consideration.

appearances of this dreadful disease in its ulcerated state. †

Difference of constitution, age and other circumstances must direct our judgment in making prognostics, after considering maturely the Diagnostics, in this disease. If the patient's health in other respects is not much impaired, the Cancer in an occult state and unattended with pain, and it be not exasperated by the injudicious use of emollient or stimulating applications, or aggravated by intemperance of any kind, it may long remain without much inconvenience, as has been well observed by Hildanus, Tulpius,

† We read of the terrible ravages of this disease in Hildanus, Stalpart Vander Wiel, Wiseman and other eminent writers, and in the *Miscellanea curiosa*.

Ætius says: *At vero ulceratus Cancer assiduo erodit, & ad profundum perfodit, nec sisti potest, & saniem emit tit omni ferarum veneno deteriorem, copia & odore abominabilem.*

I have been an unhappy spectator in many such lamentable cases, not knowing how to give permanent relief to the miserable patients.

Tulpius, and others of great attention and character; and I have also observed the same myself in several instances, when the following rules have been duly attended to; tho' should the tumor lie dormant for some years, yet, all things considered, the sooner it is extirpated certainly the better, and success may more reasonably be expected to attend the operation, especially in womens breasts, for many very obvious reasons, where it generally increases more or less upon the cessation of the menstrual evacuation, which frees the body from noxious superfluities, &c. hence particular attention should be paid to women at this period of life, when nature suffers a great change, and we see they are then often affected with this disease both in the breast and uterus without having had any appearance of it before.

It has been remarked by Physicians and Surgeons who have practised in Roman Catholic Countries, that the Nuns are more liable to this disease than other women,

women, from their state of celibacy, which has also been observed by the great Vesalius; and were it necessary some reasons might be offered here for its being so. ‡

The curative Indications are,

1. To extirpate the tumor and endeavor to prevent the return of the disease, upon the same or some other part of the body.

2. To palliate the disease, if it is impracticable, or not advisable, to extirpate the tumor, or the operation be not consented to.

L

When

‡ Monsr. Dionis says, that in a tour he made thro' the Provinces in France, he saw many women in the Monasteries afflicted with Cancers, and that much the greater part of them were between the age of 45 and 50 at the time of the cessation of the menses, and that those who were younger and so afflicted had this evacuation either totally obstructed or very irregularly.

When it appears advisable to propose the operation, we should with prudence and precaution give our opinion concerning the expediency of it, without intimidating the patient with the precariousness of the event; tho' we should be more explicit in this point to the relations or friends, for our own justification should it not end happily.

More preparation may be found necessary on this occasion, both in respect to medicine and regimen, than is generally observed before most other capital operations: and if the patient is a woman, the time of choice for performing it is, when the menstrual evacuation has been completely over some days, unless at a time of life when the returns of it are at uncertain periods.

Tho' it is needless to say, that the operation is to be performed in the most easy and gentle manner which the nature of the disease and the rules of Surgery will admit of, yet it is of the utmost consequence,

consequence, as I am fully convinced from much and long experience, to be particularly careful in extending the incision every way sufficiently into the sound parts to leave none diseased; for through inattention to this circumstance I am persuaded success has sometimes been wanting in this operation.

The wound is to be treated after the common manner; internals prescribed and diet regulated as indications direct; and tranquillity of mind in the course of the cure is essentially necessary to be observed.

Some time before the wound is cicatrized, perhaps the method which proved so efficacious in the preceding cancerous case might also prove beneficial, by a regular perseverance in it for a considerable time afterwards, and be the means of preventing a return of the disease. *

L 2

When

* The Patient whose case is alluded to continues perfectly free from that disease; I saw her very lately.

When the wounds are nearly healed after such operations, fontanels may be advisable; and when on the breasts, the most eligible parts to open them in seem to be above the shoulder-blades or between two ribs at a proper distance from the limits of the cicatrix. I have proceeded thus upon some similar occasions, and I believe with advantage. †

When the operation is not advisable, it is requisite for the patient to observe a
strict

† I have extirpated scirrhus tumors of different sizes out of the breasts of women, of almost all ages, before they arrived apparently at the cancerous state, without disappointment in the cure; and also taken off many cancerous breasts with success, two of which had been sometime in an ulcerous state, having still some favourable circumstances to encourage the operations, and they succeeded so happily according to the above direction, that the patients continue perfectly well after more than 10 years.

A case of the same nature I was concerned in upon a woman's arm, where the operation was performed with this attention, and with the like success.

See my Cases and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II. concerning Cancers and cancerous Excrescences.

strict regimen of diet, which should consist of the soft demulcent kind, with but little animal food ; nothing of a heating poignant nature should be taken.

A due observance of this article, and the other non-naturals, may, in some measure, check the progress of the disease, or alleviate the symptoms.

Special regard should be had to avoid passions of the mind, whence I have seen dreadful consequences in this disease.

Gentle purging and moderate bleeding, when pain and tension urge, should by no means be omitted ; and then a more spare and liquid diet should be enjoined.

When the habit is thin, and the patient seemingly hectic, ass's milk is advisable ; and under these circumstances a decoction, prepared with rad. sarsaparill. chin. ering. and raifons, with or without a portion of new milk, is a proper common drink.

In lax constitutions some preparation of the Bark may prove beneficial, which is a good antiseptic as well as a corroborant: and at the time of writing this paper, I have a patient with an ulcerated Cancer in the breast, who has been taking a cold infusion of the Bark in water with orange peel, and, I think, with some advantage in respect to her general health.

All compression should be avoided, more especially when the tumor is upon the breast, which should also be well suspended, if it becomes burdensome by its weight.

I believe nothing is better to be worn against it, than well drest hare's or rabbit's skin; avoiding all unctuous, emollient or stimulating applications.

This appears to me the best method of treating a Cancer in its occult state, when the operation cannot be practised, and when in an ulcerated state the same regimen,

regimen, &c. is advisable to correct and temperate the acrimony of the juices, with some preparation of the Bark; using no irritating applications to the ulcer. ‡ Various applications are recommended by writers in Surgery; those of the saturnine kind I have found, by long experience, most agreeable in general: the following Lotion and Cerate I have frequently used much to my satisfaction and ease of the patients.

R. Pulv. è Ceruss. comp.

Mucilag. Gum. arab. a ʒij

Sacchar. Saturni ʒj

*Probè contritis in Mortario marmoreo
adde sensim*

Aq. Calcis

Rosar. damascenar. a ʒvj f. Lotion.

*Unguent. saturnin. cum duplice
quantitate Ceræ albæ paratum f. Cerat.*

L 4

After

‡ Extract. Cicutæ, has had a fair trial given it in many places without effect in cancerous cases. Some judicious practitioners have thought it beneficial in glandular tumors of a strumous nature, to which I can say nothing to be depended on of my own knowledge.

After having gently cleansed the ulcer it is to be well washed with the lotion moderately warm, and strips of plaster made with the cerate laid round the edges; then soft even dry lint, or lint moistened with the lotion, is to be applied, and a plaster of the cerate over that, having small holes snipt in it, that the matter may not be confined; and over this dressing, nothing is so proper and easy as cotton-wool wrapt up in fine linen cloth, with a very slight bandage.

Sometimes I have faced the pledgets of lint with Unguent. saturnin. having a little Pulv. à Cerufs. comp. mixt with it. However, great regard must be paid to the effect of every kind of application, to be varied according to circumstances and the effects it produces: for what shall be found by experience to keep the parts easiest is best.

Some practitioners of great character have highly recommended applications prepared with Solanum, Cicuta and other
narcotic

narcotic plants; I have tried them in various forms, and made ointments with them in the same manner as Unguent. sambucin. P. L. adding wax in such proportion as to give them the consistence of a soft cerate; and found they sometimes proved an easy dressing: I have also seen some good effect from a carrot-poultice.

The stench proceeding from these ulcers is often very great, consequently noxious to the patient and attendants. *

In this condition they require frequent dressing even three or four times in 24 hours, and to have the cloths sprinkled with some odorous antiputrescent liquor, as lavender-water alone or mixt with vinegar; and now it may become very necessary to defend the skin about the ulcer against the acrimony of the matter,
by

* Doctor Harris has recorded a fatal instance, where a Physician suffered in this manner from his own wife, who was afflicted with an ulcerous Cancer in her breast.

by plasters of Cerat. alb. or something of that gentle nature spread thin upon fine cloth. In extreme pain recourse must occasionally be had to opiates. In hæmorrhages, which often happen from erosion of the vessels, I have used lycoperdon or puff-ball dry or moistened with aqua styptica, which, with moderate pressure, has effectually answered the end without creating pain, which is no immaterial consideration, in these cases particularly; and in a Lady's case wherein I am concerned at this juncture, it has had this happy effect more than once, in her cancerous breast.

I have sometimes applied to the ulcers thin slices of this soft, easy fungous substance instead of dry lint, as an absorbent, after washing it with the lotion, when there has been no bleeding, and it has agreed very well. †

The best and most expeditious way of cleansing the ulcer at the times of dressing

† Concerning this very useful fungous substance, see my Treatise on wounds, Pag. 165. and seq.

sing is, with a piece of the finest sponge of suitable dimensions, expressed out of warm water, having a little brandy mixt with it, which by gentle pressure upon the ulcer, at once absorbs the matter in the most easy manner, and also corrects putrescence. The same method may likewise be found as proper in other ulcers or wounds.

Of an Hydrocele with a diseased Testicle accompanying it, and a more uncommon appearance than that.

April the 17th, 1773, Mr. Henchman, a Surgeon of a very respectable character, at Earl-Soham in the County of Suffolk, brought a patient to me at Doctor D' Urban's at Halefworth, about 28 years of age, whose health seemed good in all other respects, except a tumor in his scrotum, which had been deemed an Hydrocele Tunicae vaginalis.

About a year and a half before, the patient himself discovered a small tumor
on

on the anterior and inferior part of his right testicle, which increased gradually and was now about five inches in length and eight in circumference, extending almost to the abdominal ring, having in it a manifest fluctuation of a fluid. It was attended with some degree of shooting pain quite to the loins, the skin had a swarthy color, the veins upon it were varicous and the spermatic cord was considerably enlarged.

These symptoms, according to what I have often observed, may justly raise apprehensions, when the testicle cannot be distinctly felt through a considerable quantity of fluid in the Tunica vaginalis, that it is not a simple Hydrocele; and this is a point which demands the utmost attention to direct our practice for the safety of the patient, lest the case should prove complicated with a diseased testicle.

On the 7th of May following, I was desired to attend a consultation, consisting of four Surgeons, at the patient's own house.

After deliberately confidering every circumstance, we thought it by no means advisable to pursue the palliative method practised in a true Hydrocele, nor attempt the radical cure either by caustic or seton as recommended by two eminent writers. ‡

We were willing to proceed with all due precaution for our own sakes as well as our patient's safety; consequently we acquainted his relations and friends with the result of our deliberations and the precariousness of the success of the method proposed, which we had unanimously agreed upon, and it was readily assented to by all concerned.

The patient having been properly prepared, an incision of a sufficient extent was now made at the inferior and anterior part of the tumor, in order to investigate the state of the testicle; intending if found diseased as we feared, to proceed to castration directly, having an apparatus ready; and if not so affected
then

‡ Mr. Pott and Mr. Else.

then to endeavour to perform the radical cure by extending the incision farther, &c. as should be found necessary. *

Upon making the incision, eight or ten ounces of a fluid like pale urine passed out, and then an Hydatide about the size of an hen's egg presented itself, having a transparent, thick, gelatinous fluid contained in a fine pellucid membrane, adhering to the Tunica albuginea of an enlarged diseased testicle. These circumstances determined us to proceed forthwith to castration, which was performed without any remarkable occurrence,

* See my Cases and Remarks in Surgery, Edit. II. upon this subject, particularly the note at Page 225; and concerning Castration, &c. from Page 237 to 246.

Two years ago I was consulted in a simple Hydrocele, for a person about 70 years of age, and the palliative operation was performed, discharging near a quart of water, without any bad accident in consequence of it. Next year the operation was again performed, desiring our patient to forbear much exercise for a few days; but the day after he rode a long journey, which occasioned a violent inflammation; it was treated properly by his Surgeon in ordinary and proved a radical cure though no abscess succeeded the inflammation.

rence, taking up the spermatic artery with a little cellular membrane by the needle and ligature, avoiding the nerve. The sheath of the cord, and the Tunica vaginalis were much thickened and resembled doe's leather.

After the operation we accurately examined the diseased parts, and found the membrane which enveloped the Hydatide firmly attached to the Tunica albuginea and to the Epididymis of a livid complexion, and that the testis had a cancerous tendency, the tubuli of which were of a dark color. These appearances gave us the satisfaction of being convinced we had proceeded rationally, as well as with a degree of precaution extremely necessary in a case no less dubious in its event than important in its nature.

The Symptoms in consequence of the operation were favourable, and on July the 28th, when I again met Mr. Heinrichman upon business, he informed me the wound had been perfectly cicatrized some weeks

weeks, and that the patient enjoyed a good state of health. †

Of

† Vid Morgagni de Causis & Sedibus Morborum, Epist. 43. Art. 16 & seq. and Mr. Else's judicious Treatise on the Hydrocele Tunica vaginalis Testis, concerning Hydatides upon the Tunica albuginea, &c.—Morgagnius says, in his *Adversaria anatomica*, that the Tunica albuginea consists of two Lamellæ: and De Graaf de *Virorum Organis Generationis*, says,—*Vasa lymphatica quæ admodum dextere in Testiculis detexit nostri Seculi Curiositas, non solum provenire nobis videntur a Tunica albuginea, sed etiam ab interna Testiculorum Substantia:* and Nuck, in his *Adenographia Curiosa*, speaks to the same purpose.

Read what the late celebrated Professor Monro has written upon Tumors in the Scrotum, in the *Med. Essays*, Vol. V. and Mons. Bertrandi's Dissertation on the Hydrocele, in the *Mem. de l' Acad. Roy. de Chirurgie*, Tom. III.—Mr. Ingram in his *chirurgical Observations* describes six distinct kinds of Hydroceles, which are well worth attending to, where he also takes notice of Hydatides; but does not mention a Case wherein any appeared in an Hydrocele in these parts, nor how they are produced.

As Lymphatics according to the Doctrine of accurate modern Anatomists, take their rise from and are dispersed in the cellular Membrane, so probably Hydatides proceed from Ruptures of them, having their fluid deposited in the Cells of that Membrane, which is the universal connecting substance; and there, gradually increasing and distending them, form Cysts of different sizes.—Some have thought Hydatides were Lymphatics distended with their fluid by Obstructions.

Of a Lunatic's swallowing an iron pin more than five inches long, tapering and about two inches in circumference at the biggest end, and its consequences.

When the keeper of this gentleman went at night to secure the door of his room, as he used to do, and was looking for the pin, he said to him, "don't look for it, I have swallowed it:" this he little credited; but it being in a lucid interval he asked him what induced him to do so, and his answer was; "I was thirsty and my mouth hot, and putting the pin into it, it felt cool and very pleasant, and I thrust it down my throat with my finger thus," describing the manner, saying, "it is gone indeed."

He made no complaint till about a fortnight after; then became very restless, and said his body ached violently;

M

but

but had no recollection of swallowing the pin: however, upon taking a purge it was brought away and all his complaints immediately ceased.

The keeper of this Lunatic is a person of veracity; and some years after he had given me this strange relation, I was called to his house upon business in my profession, and finding the gentleman pretty rational, as he was at times, I asked him about this matter, and he confirmed to me the truth of the whole transaction.

A case mistaken, attended with a singular circumstance.

In May, 1768, an excellent Apothecary, who also practised Surgery, asked my opinion concerning a boy about seven years of age, who he told me had long had *a fistulous ulcer in perinæo*, with a *glandular tumor* in the left *inguen*, and that, from the appearances, he apprehended

hended it was a scrophulous case: however, upon more strict inquiry we were informed, that several months before he became this gentleman's patient, he fell with great violence upon the *ischium*, in consequence of which he had extreme pain there, extending to the *perinæum*, where an abscess afterwards was formed and suffered to burst of itself, without application being made to a Surgeon, his parents being very poor.

Upon passing a probe towards the *ischium*, farther than had before been introduced, I plainly felt a piece of bone in the sinus, which was very strait: and upon examining the tumor attentively, it appeared beyond dispute, to be a *testis* that had never descended into the *scrotum*.

A Testis lodged in the Inguen taken for a strumous tumor.

My friend was fully convinced, and ingenuously confessed his mistake.

I advised enlarging the opening to give room for the easy passage of the piece of
M 2 bone,

bone, now much confined, and to take the plaster off the *testicle*, giving it full liberty.

The ulcer healed soon after the discharge of a large exfoliation; but probably the *testicle* had acquired such a strong adhesion to the surrounding parts, as never to be dislodged from that residence, and fall into its proper place. *

Of

* Doctor Michaelson, an ingenious young Physician with whom I was acquainted in London, told me that he had been concerned for a patient in the venereal disease, whose testicles had not descended into the Scrotum at more than 20 years of age, but lay just above the inguina easily to be felt.

Until the time of birth, the *Testes* of the *Fœtus* are situated within the cavity of the *Abdomen*.

See a description of their situation, &c. concerning the *Hernia congenita* in the accurate Doctor Hunter's Medical Commentaries, by Mr. John Hunter, his Brother, an excellent Anatomist also, and Surgeon to St. George's Hospital in London.

Of a case wherein the liver was of an enormous size.

The subject of this history was a Gentleman of the law, aged about 60, of an uncommon small stature and lean habit of body. He had for some years been in a valetudinary state, probably owing to a sedentary life and too close application to study and business, which deprived him of the benefit of two essentials to health, air, and exercise.

At length the abdominal Viscera became obstructed and affected to a great degree, and he had a cadaverous aspect.

Under these circumstances he was advised to go to Bath, in the vernal season of the year 1765; there he consulted two Physicians and Mr. Pierce the Surgeon; and tho' his body was then considerably enlarged, they apprehended it contained

M 3

but

but little fluid, and did not deem it an *Ascites* requiring *Paracentesis*.

Upon his return home I was desired to attend him with Doctor Offley; the case appeared to us as it had done to the Gentlemen at Bath, and we were sensible that the liver was of a vast bigness, extending almost all over the Abdomen.

Soon after ill health obliged me to retire from business, and prevented my farther attendance.

The year following it was thought advisable to tap him and repeat the operation four times, which gave very little relief; the quantity of fluid drawn off each time was but small and gelatinous.

He died in November, 1767, and according to his own desire his body was opened.

Upon opening the Abdomen, but a small quantity of a fluid, and that gelatinous,

tinous, was found diffused in the cavity ; in a cyst formed of the peritonæal coat of the liver on its concave side, five or six pints of the like kind of fluid were contained ; the liver was scirrhus to a great degree, and much resembled a cow's udder ; it weighed 28 pounds, which was more than one fourth of the weight of the patient's whole body when in health ; it was overspread with Hydatides, each containing from a quarter to half a pint or more of inspissated lymph ; some of which were burst and had shed their contents into the cavity of the Abdomen.

In proportion to the size of the patient, it is supposed to be the largest ever observed.

The Spleen was enlarged to double its natural size, and was also full of Hydatides like those on the Liver.

The Mesenteric Glands were distended with gelatinous lymph.

The abdominal Viscera adhered together and to the containing parts.

M 4

The

The contents of the Thorax were not diseased, but the capacity of it was greatly diminished, by the extraordinary bulk and pressure upwards of the Liver, &c. by which respiration became very difficult.

I am obliged to the Physician who attended the dissection for these descriptions.

A singular case of a stone lodged in the Rectum just above the Sphincter Ani.

A Gentleman between 60 and 70 years of age, naturally of a very robust constitution, but now greatly emaciated, had been for nine or ten years subject to disorders of the urinary passages often voiding gravel and small stones; and about three years ago had a large abscess formed in *perinæo*; which was opened by an old, experienced Surgeon; but he did not discover any perforation of the *Urethra*.

The

The ulcer remained in a fistulous state, and in a short time he complained of uneasiness in the *Rectum* above the *Sphincter Ani*. This new complaint soon became very tormenting, and was long looked upon and treated as the *internal Piles*, when, by introducing his own finger, he felt some solid body, which was apprehended, by those whom he consulted on this occasion, to be a plumb-stone or a biliary concretion lodged there, without examining the part as he himself had done.

He was now in a deplorable condition, not being able to sit upon a seat, in constant pain, excruciating upon going to stool, and had urine pass thro' the fistulous ulcer *in perinæo*, and sometimes into the *rectum*.

Under these circumstances his Physician * proposed my being consulted with the two Surgeons who had been concerned for him some time.

After

* Doctor Bigsby of Ipswich.

After strictly examining the parts, and deliberately considering every circumstance in our consultation, we were unanimously of opinion, that a stone had slipped out of its course when the abscess was formed *in perinæo*, and at length made its way partly into the *Rectum*, as we were in no doubt that what we felt there with our fingers was the point of a stone, tho' we could not feel any by introducing a probe into the fistulous ulcer.

From these considerations we proposed cutting upon it, in order to extract it, after emptying the Rectum with a clyster.

The patient was so well satisfied with the propriety of this method, as to consent to it directly; and the operation was judiciously performed by his Surgeon in ordinary, by cutting upon it through the *Sphincter*, making the wound sufficiently large to extract it with facility.

The stone was of a tapering figure more than an inch long, of the bigness of the
little

little finger, and about one third of its length projected into the Rectum, where a kind of neck was formed, by the stricture of the surrounding parts, which confined it strongly in its situation, where undoubtedly it gradually encreased.

The wound healed kindly without any ill accident in consequence of the operation; and by properly treating the fistulous ulcer with bougies, &c. that was also soon brought into a healing state, and both were perfectly cured in less than two months, as the Surgeon informed me.

I saw this Gentleman the year after; he had then recovered his flesh, and told me he enjoyed good health, finding no uneasiness upon the parts in walking, riding, or in going to stool.

Copy

Copy of a Letter to Doctor Monsey, Physician to Chelsea-Hospital, which I took from the Original in the Patient's own Hand-writing, with the Doctor's Consent: and it is inserted here, some circumstances being omitted in the account of the case in the Medical Transactions of the College of Physicians.

London,

October the 1st, 1766.

GOOD SIR,

“ With all humble submission I take
“ the liberty, in this manner, to acquaint
“ you with my disorder of the most singular nature, with which I was seized
“ as near as I can recollect, in the year
“ 1752, and shall endeavour to give you
“ as clear and exact a representation of
“ it as I can.

“ When ever I went out into the open
air, or exposed myself to the sun, my
skin

“ skin began to be tickled, and as I went
“ on or remained therein, that tickling
“ sensation would soon become a violent
“ itching attended with uncommon heat,
“ and my skin also wherever touched by
“ the warm air or the sun-beams would
“ immediately appear as red as vermi-
“ lion, but soonest by the effect of the
“ latter, and become thick and stiff as
“ leather, sometimes horney; but I was
“ thus affected only between sun and
“ sun; for before the sun rose and after
“ it set I was quite another man.

“ Thus it is with me now, and from
“ sun-rising to sun-setting, I am in a
“ a state of involuntary confinement
“ within doors.

“ Many worthy Gentlemen of the
“ Faculty have given me their advice and
“ endeavours to relieve me in this dis-
“ tress,

“ trefs, which rendered me incapable of
“ following my occupation, as a watch-
“ maker, to earn my bread : besides
“ which, I had the affiftance of the moft
“ noted Hofpitals, but without any fen-
“ fible benefit, tho’ what was prefcribed
“ for me might poffibly check the rapi-
“ dity of the progreff of my tormenting
“ difeafe, which might foon have put a
“ period to my life.

“ At laft the Gentlemen were unani-
“ mously of opinion that fea-bathing for
“ three months might afford me fome re-
“ lief, if not perfectly cure me ; and be-
“ ing tired of my life, and almoft dif-
“ tracted with my condition, I scraped
“ together what fmall matter my scanty
“ circumftances would allow and went
“ to Yarmouth, where after going in-
“ to the open fea for fix weeks night
“ and morning, I thought it high time
“ to

“ to try an experiment, in order to prove
“ whether I had received any benefit ; to
“ which purpose I pitched upon a day,
“ which experience had convinced me
“ was proper for the trial : I undrest in
“ the middle of the day and went into
“ the water, and after a triple immersion
“ I thought it prudent to come out,
“ finding a return of those dreadful
“ symptoms I have described, with great
“ aggravation ; what I felt before I could
“ get on my cloaths is inexpressible ; but
“ I will as well as I can endeavour to con-
“ vey to you an idea of my misery at this
“ time : the itching, together with the
“ heat diffused themselves with such spi-
“ rit and activity thro’ my whole frame,
“ that nature seemed ready to yield, my
“ eyes grew dim and could not per-
“ form their office, and I became so ex-
“ cessively weak and faint that I was
“ compelled to lie down upon the beach
“ to prevent falling ; but the moment I
“ thus prostrated myself the faintness
“ abated ; I then got up, but it instantly
“ returned and I was forced to lie down
“ again ;

“ again ; thus was I alternately getting
“ up and lying down for half an hour
“ before I found myself able to walk.

“ This account may seem amazing to
“ some and be disputed by others ; but
“ indeed it is true without any exag-
“ geration.

“ Finding myself likely to be disap-
“ pointed in this ultimate hope and re-
“ fuge, from the most serious reflection,
“ I should with great willingness, have
“ resigned my existence, rather than have
“ lived so singular a monument of mi-
“ sery, without any prospect of cure or
“ alleviation of the wretchedness of my
“ condition : however, as the time li-
“ mited for my bathing in the sea was
“ but half expired, I resolved to stay to the
“ full extent of it, and continued it
“ morning and night for seven weeks
“ longer, which made in the whole thir-
“ teen : and I also drank a pint of the
“ sea-water every morning fasting.

“ Having

“ Having now strictly conformed to
“ this last resort, overwhelmed with hor-
“ ror and distress, I sat myself down up-
“ on the pier-head, ruminating upon my
“ hard fate and irremediable condition,
“ and resolved to return home as soon as
“ I could.

“ After my return various means were
“ tried to no better purpose, till I ap-
“ plied to you, by whose kind and cha-
“ ritable assistance, when reduced to the
“ last degree of despondency I have re-
“ ceived comfort, and am enabled to
“ breathe and bear that air which is ap-
“ pointed for the general benefit of man-
“ kind; and also to pursue my business
“ for my support.

“ The account I have related is au-
“ thentic, as God is my judge; and
“ many living witnesses can attest the
“ truth of it, which I thought would
N “ be

“ be agreeable to you to have under my
 “ own hand, as the circumstances are of
 “ such an extraordinary nature. I for-
 “ got to mention my age, which is 38.
 “ I am with profound respect and
 “ gratitude”,

Worthy Sir,

Your most obliged and
 dutiful Servant

WEST ADAMS

Watch-Maker in Turk's-Head-Court,
 Golden-Lane near Barbican.

London.

The

* The Doctor told me that warm bathing, small doses of Calomel, as an alterative, long persevered in, taking now and then a lenient purge, with a strict observance of the non-naturals and a proper regimen of diet, was the method which proved of such singular service.

The Doctor informed me in August, 1768, that this man continued well without having had any return of his disease.

The winter before this disease appeared, his diet consisted chiefly of bullock's liver and porter, and his companion

The following letter was sent to Sir Christopher Meighan at Dieppe in Normandy, by a Gentleman of the army, for his opinion in respect to the use of the Waters at Bareges in his case, with the state of it inclosed.

Norwich,

March the 10th, 1767

SIR,

“ After having read your Treatise on
 “ the Bareges-Waters, I desired the Sur-
 “ geon under whose care I had been; as
 “ long as his health would allow him to
 “ attend me, to draw up my case to be
 “ transmitted to you, to know whether
 “ you think them proper in it; and I

N 2

“ beg

panion lived in the same manner, who was also afflicted in a less degree; which circumstances are omitted in the preceding letter, but the patient acquainted the Doctor with them afterwards, as he informed me.

“ beg the favour of your immediate an-
 “ swer, with such directions as you shall
 “ judge necessary to give for the use of
 “ them, if you think them advisable in
 “ my case.

“ Should you encourage my taking so
 “ long a journey, I will repair thither
 “ directly.

I am,

Sir,

Your most humble Servant

“ The inclosed state of my case has
 “ been read and approved by my Phy-
 “ sician.

State of the Case.

The Gentleman is about 30 years of
 age of small stature but had remarkable
 strength for his size. He was of a live-
 ly, active disposition and always enjoyed
 good

good health till the year 1762, when he suffered very much by hard duty, and lying in the damp trenches at Belleisle.

In consequence of these hardships, he first was seized with a pain upon his hip, which was considered and treated as a rheumatic disorder, by the Regimental Surgeon, then at home by a Surgeon of character in the country, and afterwards by a Physician of great eminence in London.

Two years elapsed under the care of these Gentlemen, without finding any relief; and sometime after, when both hip and thigh were greatly enlarged, they were electrified nine times, receiving the severest shocks each time, upon pretence of more effectually dispersing the swelling, under the direction of a person entirely ignorant of medical knowledge.

A most absurd
Electrification.

From the time of the Electrification, every thing proceeded from bad to worse,

and in a little time he returned to his native place, much emaciated and hectic, putting himself again under the care of his former Surgeon, who finding a great collection of matter throughout the thigh, made an ample opening through the Fascia Femoris.

An immense quantity of fetid matter was discharged, like the washings of flesh; the subjacent muscles were very flabby and livid, looking like a new flayed hare after lying in water.

In August, 1764, soon after this step had been taken, Doctor Offley and I were called to him.

Considering his extreme weakness, requiring the assistance of two or three persons to turn him in his bed, and every motion being attended with exquisite pain, his being shrunk almost to skin and bone, with loss of appetite, and having a vexatious cough with colliquative sweats, it was no wonder that his
Surgeon

Surgeon should declare to us as he did, even before we saw him, that we were come to see a dying man, whom he believed would live but a very few days: and indeed after seeing him and examining the state of the case with the utmost care and attention, and receiving an history of it from the beginning in a very circumstantial and exact manner, we also despaired of his recovery.

The Surgeon's
opinion when
the Doctor and I
were called in.

We discovered sinuses in every direction in the interstices of the muscles, from the loins and hip to the ham, by introducing a bougie, whence proceeded such an immoderate quantity of the most offensive sanious matter, that it was not possible he could long have existed under that discharge, with the absorption of the matter keeping up a constant fever, &c. and we were now apprehensive the bones were affected in different parts.

From this inundation of matter we considered the parts as a morass that required draining, in order to make firm land; consequently agreed to obtain three or four depending openings, and dress the whole in the most easy, superficial manner: one was made at the inferior part of the lumbar region, directly upon a point where he had long complained of such exquisite pain, that he could not bear to lie upon it. Here we found a caries upon the spinal process of the last *vertebra* with great roughness of the bone; and immediately after this opening he was able to lie upon that part with ease.

Depending
and counter
openings, &c.
soon produced a
wonderful
change in this
case.

The depending and counter openings, with the easy, superficial dressings, soon produced a very wonderful change in the case; the discharge lessened, and the matter became better conditioned: and with
the

the assistance of the Physician's advice and prescriptions, there was a daily amendment in all respects very visibly.

After our attendance at a distance about six weeks, the Gentleman was earnestly desirous, with the concurrence of his relations, to be under our immediate care and inspection, and was accordingly removed to Norwich, a distance of about 30 miles, and bore the journey without being much fatigued, lying upon a bed in a large coach.

We now pursued our original plan of occasionally making depending openings of a moderate extent, and preserving them in the easiest manner, to give a free and uninterrupted discharge to the matter, and room for the expulsion of carious pieces of bones, from the *Os sacrum*, *Isch.* and *Fem.* as well as the *Verteb.* which has been mentioned, all which we found affected;

affected; and to give nature an opportunity of filling up with good flesh and closing such dreadful cavernous ulcers.

We had from all these bones exfoliations, some thicker and some thinner, and some from the *Os Femoris* the thickness of the bone quite to the marrow: the whole number were 26, but only one has come away visibly for about a year; since which many of the sinuses have perfectly closed, others have contracted into a narrow compass and none of those still remaining open afford much matter.

He drank Asses Milk, took the Bark, Elix. Vitriol. &c. and observed such a regimen, with great regularity in all respects, as the Doctor thought advisable.

He has recovered flesh and strength far beyond our expectation, and so much of
his

his wonted gayety and chearfulness as to relish amusements and diversions.

This worthy Gentleman in the whole course of his most dreadful affliction, shewed the greatest magnanimity and fortitude of mind.

Halesworth,

Feb. the 18th, 1767.

B. GOOCH.

This case was attested by Dr. Offley of Norwich. †

Sir

† In consequence of an unfortunate, and unforeseen incident which brought my life into the most imminent danger, I was obliged to retire from business between two and three years; which circumstance prevented my seeing this Gentleman for more than a year before I drew up this history of his case, and what occurred in that intermediate period was left to be added, by the Surgeon who succeeded me, with the Physician's concurrence.

Sir Christopher Meighan's answer.

Dieppe in Normandy,

March the 21st, 1767.

SIR,

“ The origin of your disorder was
 “ manifestly obstructed perspiration, in
 “ consequence of which matter was in
 “ time congested, forming a tumor upon
 “ the limb.

Remarks upon the absurdity of the Electrification, with the probable ill effects of it.

“ The Electrification so unseasonably
 “ and violently practised proved, without
 “ doubt, very injurious; the repeated
 “ percussions in that manner, particularly
 “ affecting the distended vessels, must
 “ produce lacerations in many of the ca-
 “ pillaries, and occasion a diffusion of
 “ matter on all sides, whence proceeded
 “ more sinuses than there would other-
 “ wise have been, and probably more
 “ injury to the bones,

“ It

“ It is needless to say any more on
“ the circumstances of your case, than to
“ felicitate you on the excellency of your
“ constitution, that was able to withstand
“ such dreadful attacks, and to congratu-
“ late the Gentlemen by whose salu-
“ tary care you have been preserved, par-
“ ticularly by the judicious measures
“ they pursued in making opportune de-
“ pending openings, by which the prey-
“ ing matter was drained off, giving the
“ carious bones room to exfoliate, and
“ preventing, by those means, the fatal
“ consequences of hectic fever, profuse
“ night sweats and consumptive cough,
“ which would finally have ended in a
“ fatal marasmus, by purulent matter
“ being constantly absorbed, and mixing
“ with the mass of blood and humors.

“ The present state in which you are,
“ alone claims our consideration and at-
“ tention, and in my opinion, from what
“ I have observed of the efficacy of the
“ Bareges Waters, they are exceedingly
“ proper in your case now; for any
“ sinuses

“ sinuses still remaining open may be-
 “ come fistulous, and callosities will pre-
 “ vent a cure being perfected, as daily
 “ experience evinces, which may be
 “ brought into a sure healing disposition,
 “ by the resolute and digestive power
 “ of these Waters.

“ Carious splinters of bones, if they
 “ lie latent, as they sometimes will for
 “ many years, and breaking forth re-
 “ vive great evils, will be detached by
 “ the operation of the *Douche*; ‡ and
 “ what is the main point, by drinking
 “ these balsamic salubrious waters health
 “ may be restored

“ In order to obtain these desirable
 “ ends I advise as follows.

The method
 of using the
 Waters and
 Baths at Ba-
 reges.

“ As soon as you get to Bareges, which
 “ should be by the beginning of June at
 “ latest, I would have you begin with
 “ the temperate, lukewarm Baths called
 “ *Bains*

‡ *Douche* is the same operation as our pumping at
 Bath.

“ *Bains de Delices*, continuing them nine
“ days successively, each bathing to be of
“ an hour and half’s duration at least,
“ taking the dressings previously off the
“ ulcers, afterwards applying to them
“ soft even pledgets of lint, and com-
“ presses dipped in the water of the hot-
“ test spring, to be gently bound on with
“ a roller; which easy simple method of
“ dressing is sufficient at all times, unless
“ the orifices of the ulcers be callous,
“ or there be callosities in the sinuses,
“ in which case there may be occasion
“ to scarify the lips and dress them with
“ an ointment prepared with two parts
“ of the purest sediment of the Baths
“ and one of crude mercury, with a
“ small portion of the finest turpentine,
“ to be well rubbed together till the
“ mercury be perfectly extinguished and
“ no globules to be seen: and some of
“ this ointment is to be conveyed into
“ the sinuses, as far as it can convenient-
“ ly, upon soft pledgets of lint, not
“ cramming them full; continuing this
“ manner

An ointment
to dress the ul-
cers with.

“ manner of dressing, so long as the parts
 “ remain in a callous state, according to
 “ the Surgeon’s judgment.

Clysters of the
 Water recom-
 mended.

“ During these nine days, two hours
 “ before entering the Bath, it will be
 “ proper to have a clyster given of the
 “ temperate water: and during the whole
 “ course of these waters, clysters of the
 “ temperate, or hottest water, if you are
 “ not too hot, may prove beneficial
 “ twice or thrice a week.

The manner
 of drinking the
 water.

“ You may send every morning early
 “ for a quart of the hottest spring water,
 “ and drink it mixt with the same quan-
 “ tity of fresh drawn cow’s milk, divided
 “ into six portions, with the interval of
 “ an hour; persisting in the use of this
 “ salutary medicine during the whole
 “ season, except on the purging days,
 “ which should be every tenth for the
 “ first month, and fifteenth afterwards,
 “ doing nothing in these days but wash
 “ the sores with the hottest water, injec-
 “ ting some into the sinuses, with the
 “ rest

“ rest of the dressing as has been direc-
 “ ted; using the ointment if found ne-
 “ cessary.

“ The gentlest purgatives are to be
 “ used. Manna with Nitre dissolved in
 “ clear whey and strained, makes a very
 “ proper purge at these times. Two
 “ ounces of Manna and a dram of Nitre
 “ is a full dose. If Nitre should disagree
 “ with your stomach, Cream of Tartar
 “ may be used in its stead.

Purgatives of
 the gentlest kind
 advisable, dur-
 ing the use of
 the waters.

“ After the first nine days use of the
 “ temperate Bath-Water and the purge
 “ which is to succeed it, you are then to
 “ begin with the *Douche* from this spring,
 “ and after fifteen days the water from
 “ the hottest spring may be used to all
 “ the parts affected, or that have been
 “ affected, from eight to fifteen minutes
 “ at a time, as you find you can well
 “ bear this operation, which is to be re-
 “ peated every day throughout the sea-
 “ son, as a most sovereign remedy to
 “ heal the ulcers or dispose them to heal;

O

“ but

“ but should you at any time find your-
 “ self over-heated by the *Douche*, † it
 “ must be omitted two or three days,
 “ and in that interval use the temperate
 “ Bath for refreshment as before directed.

“ It is to be observed, that when the
 “ ulcers are deterged, and appear in a
 “ good healing condition, which in a
 “ bad case probably may be two months
 “ or more, even with the most regular
 “ perseverance in the method I have re-
 “ commended, the percussion of the
 “ *Douche* or fall of water upon the parts
 “ is

† I was obliged to go to Bath twice on account of a lameness upon my ankle, and I found by experience, that this operation quickened my pulse and made me hotter than bathing in water of an equal degree of heat the same space of time.

These waters proved so efficacious after various other means had afforded me no relief, as to restore the use of my limb, when it was become quite useless and attended with great pain upon the least motion, in consequence of gouty matter falling upon the joint, after a violent injury received in a fall from my horse many months before.

“ is to be moderated, or regulated, by
 “ interposing a piece of fine linen cloth,
 “ or by the use of a tin pipe of a smaller
 “ diameter, giving a much less column
 “ of water, endeavouring to avoid throw-
 “ ing it in a perpendicular direction up-
 “ on the parts into the sinuses, lest the
 “ force and power of it in that manner,
 “ should interrupt the work of regene-
 “ ration, or wear away the very tender
 “ papillæ or granulations of flesh: and
 “ here it may be necessary to inform you,
 “ to prevent your being discouraged at
 “ the conclusion of the season, that, tho’
 “ every disposition for a cure should be
 “ laid, yet the ulcers seldom cicatrize till
 “ sometime after quitting the action of
 “ the waters, for very obvious reasons.

How to mo-
 derate or regu-
 late the degree
 of percussion of
 the water in
 pumping.

“ Should it happen that extraordinary
 “ heat, head-ach or febrile symptoms,
 “ discoverable by the quickness of the
 “ pulse, should seize you at any time
 “ during the use of these waters, you
 “ should lose 6 or 8 ounces of blood, or
 “ more as you can bear that evacuation,

In case febrile
 symptoms should
 arise upon the
 use of the wa-
 ters what to be
 done.

“ and take a dose of gentle purging phy-
 “ sic, repeating it occasionally.

The proper
 Regimen in the
 use of these wa-
 ters.

“ Your regimen or diet, a point so
 “ material in the cure of all diseases, is
 “ to be attended to with the utmost
 “ strictness and observance, as very con-
 “ ducive to the success of the waters.
 “ Milk as it comes from the cow, with
 “ bread in a moderate quantity is proper
 “ for breakfast and supper; for dinner,
 “ good, plain soup or broth, with flesh-
 “ meats of easy digestion, as veal, mut-
 “ ton, lamb, chicken, &c. boiled or
 “ roasted; avoiding high sauces, fruits
 “ and sallads, or whatever is heating or
 “ breeds crudities.

Water boiled
 and strained af-
 ter standing till
 cold the best
 common drink.

“ If you can content yourself with
 “ water for common drink, which should
 “ be boiled, and the clear poured off
 “ when cold, that is, in my opinion, a
 “ liquor the most advisable, drinking
 “ only one glass of some genuine sweet
 “ stomach wine, such as Malaga or
 “ Frontiniac, after dinner; but if cus-
 “ tom has made wine necessary, and you

“ cannot be satisfied with water alone,
 “ a third part of good, sound red port
 “ wine mixed with it may be allowed.
 “ Too free an use of wine has proved so
 “ prejudicial to some of our Country-
 “ men, who have resorted to Bareges, as
 “ to deprive them of the benefit of the
 “ waters in very proper cases.

The free use
 of wine pernicious
 during the
 use of these waters.

“ I most heartily wish the recovery of
 “ your health, and am,

Sir,

your most humble Servant,

CHRISTOPHER MEIGHAN. †

O 3

Sir

† Sir Christopher Meighan M. D. is Knight of the
 Order of the Holy Ghost, and used to attend at Bareges
 in the Seasons for drinking the waters, &c.

These thermal Springs are at the foot of the Pyrenean
 Mountains towards the South, dividing France from
 Spain, where commodious covered Baths were built by
 the order of the present King of France, for the better
 accommodation of people resorting to them.—I have
 reason to wish there had been the like accommodation
 at Bath; for when I was obliged to go thither in the
 autumnal season, by being exposed to the open air in
 bathing in cold weather, I suffered much.

Sir Christopher Meighan's Letter determined this Gentleman to go to Bareges, and in his way thither through London he took the opinion of some eminent Surgeons there, who also advised the same.

In his journey he suffered much from some unexpected occurrences, and when he arrived there, was not in a condition to use the waters to any purpose; for which reason he was advised to retire to Tarbes in Gascony, about fifteen leagues from Bareges, and there to winter in order to return early the next season; but in the mean time a new disorder attacked him and carried him off; concerning which I never had a satisfactory account, but did hear it was some complaint in his bowels.

He was embalmed by Monf. Clerac, who gave a very defective account of his dying illness.

Of

*Of the singular effect of a large dose of
solid Opium.*

A person who had long been subject to nephritic complaints and voided many small stones, was unnecessarily compelled to a long attendance in a Court of Judicature, upon an excessive hot day; in consequence of which an immoderate effusion of blood ensued from the urinary passages, and continued, with short intervals, for more than ten months; defeating the most powerful means and bringing his life into most imminent danger.

In this state a fever seized him attended with violent incessant purging and vomiting, having at the same time a return of bleeding to a much greater degree than ever before. Not a spoonful of any kind of nutriment would now stay in his stomach; his pulse became

O 4

almost

almost imperceptible and intermitting, his life in all appearance of but a few hours duration, and his nearest and dearest relations had taken their final leave of him as a dying person.

Under these circumstances he was truly sensible of his approaching dissolution, and talked with his Physician upon it with great composure of mind, who was his particular Friend, and attended him with great care, judgment and affection, to give him all the assistance in his power as long as he lived; believing he would want it but a very short time; however, in this extremity he proposed giving him a large dose of solid Opium, with some faint hopes, if it staid in his stomach, of proving the means of checking these evacuations; and four grains of this heavenly remedy, in as many pills softened in the hand, were taken in a spoonful of simple cinnamon and pepper-mint water, which had the desired effect. In less than an hour he was in a profound sleep and slept near six hours without waking;
then,

then, between sleeping and waking, he took some nourishment which staid in his stomach, and he went to sleep again for some hours. Upon waking again more perfectly he asked for nourishment, which also staid in his stomach, and he had no tendency to vomit or purge; but then was sensible of great irritation from Coagula of blood at the neck of the bladder, as he had often been before, tho' not to so great a degree; and upon having recourse to the former expedient of injecting milk and oil occasionally, a vast quantity of coagulated blood was discharged, none in a recent state.

From that time the ruptured vessel or vessels were so effectually closed, that not the least appearance of blood has since been seen from those parts, which is more than five years; but the patient's health suffered irreparably by the immense quantity that he had lost.

The

The manner of performing the injection was by a catheter, having a pipe of a large ivory syringe shortened and well fixt into it, for want of a more commodious instrument.

A Letter, &c. communicated to me by Dr. M---y concerning a sleepless person who lived at Madrid.

DEAR SIR,

	*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*	*
*	*	*	*	*	*	*

“ I began my inquiry into the extraordinary piece of History of the
 “ sleepless man here by making a visit
 “ to my acquaintance *Father Sarmiento*,
 “ a man of the first character for learning in this Country. He told me all
 “ he knew of this sleepless man, was his
 “ being

“ being buried in that very Convent
“ where he resides, and that he noted at
“ the time, the circumstances of his ne-
“ ver having slept. This was a lucky dis-
“ covery, for by having recourse to the
“ Register of the Burials, which is more
“ full and exact than with us, I there
“ found the names of all his heirs, and
“ among the rest of his Brother-in-law,
“ whom I soon found out by inquiring
“ at another Convent; in short I asked
“ this good man every question I could
“ think of relative to this curious matter.

“ I wish you may not now think my
“ account too minute, but I was willing
“ at this distance to obviate several doubts,
“ and to mention the life of the genera-
“ lity of the Spaniards, though indeed of
“ late years they have lost much of their
“ sobriety; perhaps they do not sleep the
“ worse for that.

“ I wish

“ I wish we could have got more
“ light into this affair, but when we
“ consider that the person, *Don Andres*
“ *Brizianos* died near 30 years ago, it
“ is well we have obtained so much.

“ I have only to add that I am,

Dear Sir,

Yours, &c.

Madrid,

December 16, 1764.

The

The History of *Don Andres Gonzales de Brizianos*.

This Gentleman had a very considerable employment in the Revenue at Madrid. He *was Cantador de Resultas y de Juros*, Offices in which the receipt and disbursements of the whole Royal Treasury are examined and stated, and in which an account is kept of the interest paid of the sums of money lent to the Kings of Spain.

His employment.

He was of a middling stature, neither fat nor lean, nor of an unhealthy complexion. He used to rise early, drink very thin chocolate without eating, and pass the whole morning in the business of his Office, dine, like the Spaniards, chiefly on *Soup* and *Olla* at two o' Clock, and never take any *Siesta*. At four he had his chocolate in the same manner as
at

His constitution and manner of living.

at breakfast; and in the evening he walked a great deal in the Town, but very leisurely.

He was so well known in the Coffee-Houses, that without express orders the Waiters used to bring him large glasses of iced water, of which he used to drink very freely in the course of the day, as well as of Sherbet with ice, when he went into company.

His supper was a sallad and cucumbers, or other cold fruits and water; for he never drank wine, nor did he smoke tobacco or take snuff.

Subject to an
Herpes and the
consequences
upon drying up.

During a great many years he had a kind of Herpes, or erysipelatous humor, on one of his legs; from which he always felt bad effects when it dried up. He observed that abstaining from flesh and living chiefly upon fish, in the early part of his life, constantly brought it out again; but this means did not succeed
with

with him at 73, when the humor retreated, affected his stomach and killed him.

He was buried in the Church of the Benedictine-Convent of St. Martin at Madrid, on the 11th of February, 1736.

Where he
was buried.

In the twentieth year of his age he married a girl of thirteen, at which age the sex are marriageable in Spain and Portugal: and it is remarkable at that time of his life he took no sleep.

His Wife's Brother *Don Antonio Rodriguez Gallo*, an old Gentleman of great reputation, mentioned before, whose veracity was not to be questioned, from whom I had these particulars, does not know whether he slept in the former part of his life; he only is positive that his Brother-in-law never mentioned in his hearing, this total privation of sleep,

as

as having begun at any particular period of his life, or that he apprehended it was caused by any fit of illness.

He sometimes dozed for a very short space of time not properly, to be called sleeping.

The utmost that he dozed was one quarter of an hour in the twenty-four, which could not properly be called sleep; for even in those moments he would readily answer whatever questions were asked him.

His wife, who was as weak and sickly as he was robust and healthy, often used to say, that at no time she had ever found him sleeping, and yet he never complained of this wakefulness as a misfortune.

His father, mother, and children all good sleepers.

He was chearful in his family; but seldom sat down in his own house. In his dying illness it was thought he slept a little. It is remarkable that his father and mother, the former of whom was extremely lean, and his children *Don*

Francisco

Francisco and Donna Maria, who both survived him, but since dead, were all good sleepers.

The above facts are confirmed by the testimony of some other persons of good credit still living, who knew and frequently visited him. *

P

A Copy

* *The Reverend Father Benedict Feijoo*, a man of great learning and character, in his *Theatrum criticum universale*, says,

“ In regard to living without sleep, I have received
 “ an account from a person of consequence at Court,
 “ that *Don Andres Gonzales Brizianos Centador de Juros*,
 “ a native of *Madrid*, who preserved himself in good
 “ health till between 70 and 80 years of age, either did
 “ not sleep at all, or very little, during his whole life,
 “ only when he was advanced in years, he used to doze
 “ for a very short space of time; but even this small de-
 “ gree of rest, approached nearer to wakefulness than
 “ sleep, since he could hear every word that was spoken
 “ to him in a low tone of voice.”

An account
 supporting the
 authenticity of
 the former nar-
 rative taken
 from Feijoo's
*Theatrum criti-
 cum universale*.

The author adds. “ The same noble person assured
 “ me, that this fact was known to the whole court at
 “ *Madrid*.

*A Copy of my good Friend Doctor Monsey's
Letter, giving a narrative of a very
extraordinary case from his own obser-
vation.*

St. James's,

April the 20th, 1765.

My dear Friend,

“ I do not recollect what I said of my-
“ self in my last letter, which you say
“ gave you concern ; for indeed I have
“ lately been extremely well compared
“ with what I have suffered, and now
“ think myself happy ; tho' I have still,
“ now and then, sensations, which I
“ know not how to describe or account
“ for, yet I do not suffer them to break
“ in and disturb the general state of my
“ health either of body or mind ; but I
“ have a notion, that one day or other I
“ shall

“ shall be suddenly knocked down, as
“ with a cannon ball, or fly in pieces
“ like a bomb-shell. Don’t you imagine
“ that I am repining at this imaginary
“ catastrophe, I rather am pleased with
“ the hope of it; it is much better than
“ to be carried off with a stinking fever,
“ a drivelling palsy, or a gloomy melan-
“ choly nervous affection of any kind:
“ and now I talk of nerves and nervous
“ affections, I’ll give you an history as
“ concisely as I can, of an astonishing
“ case, that lately came to my know-
“ ledge and under my own notice; which
“ I shall leave to the Archbishop to
“ christen, and begin my narration.

“ A Gentleman of the Law in Ser-
“ jeant’s-Inn, aged about 50, and of a
“ sanguine complexion, was seized about
“ 10 years ago with a paralytic affection
“ on his left arm, after which he had
“ severe pain on the second joint of his
“ thumb, from thence it runs up to the
“ middle of the cubit, and so on to the

“ middle of the humerus, gradually in-
 “ creasing to an excruciating degree, and
 “ there it stops.

“ No means has been able to remove
 “ it effectually, but a very odd one gives
 “ temporary relief, which is tapping him
 “ very gently just at the junction of the
 “ last vertebra of the neck with the first
 “ of the back. This is done almost in-
 “ cessantly night and day, having a suc-
 “ cession of servants for this purpose,
 “ and by this means he scarce ever sleeps.

“ I saw him first on Tuesday last; he
 “ dismissed the tapper when I went in
 “ and called his wife to do the office,
 “ who sat beating him in this manner
 “ all the time I was with him, which
 “ was more than an hour.

“ At intervals he was seized with the
 “ most violent spasms in the jaws and
 “ borborygmi, and once whilst I was
 “ with him with the most unaccountable
 “ disorder

“ disorder upon the muscles of the La-
“ rynx, I suppose, for he made such a
“ horrid, sonorous, inarticulate jabber-
“ ing as I never heard, and coming, on a
“ sudden and unexpected, it affrightened
“ me.

“ I did but just touch his thumb, and
“ it gave him exquisite pain, says he, a
“ straw drawn over it is a dagger; and
“ yet once upon my touching it pretty
“ hard it took off the pain, as did more
“ than once scratching his eye-brow
“ hard.

“ When the spasm affects his throat,
“ and he belches forth wind, he farts
“ with such vehemence and smartness,
“ and with such an acute noise, as I know
“ not how to describe it to you; but it
“ seems to me something like the explo-
“ sion of a boy's pop-gun.

“ Were I to enumerate all the oddi-
“ ties I observed at this visit, I should
“ tire you and myself too.

“ He once in his agony sent for a Surgeon to cut off his arm. †

“ He has consulted a great number of Physicians and Surgeons of the greatest eminence, without finding the least relief from any of them; *Doctor Frewin* sent him to Bath.

“ He has lately been under the care of *Dominicetti the Venetian Doctor*, who is come over to cure every body of all distempers by sweating; but after three months discipline, and immoderately sweated, with dry and wet fumigations, frictions, &c. *Nihili omnia*.

“ Curiosity led me to inquire into these strange and surprising phænomena.

“ He begged of me to try something, but I had no courage, spirit or hopes.
“ He

† In a letter which I lately received from the Doctor, he says, that last summer a Surgeon divided the two branches of nerves belonging to the thumb, but without benefit.

“ He has taken all the nervous tribe
“ of medicines over and over again ;
“ however, not to appear inhuman to so
“ wretched a being, after telling him I
“ knew not what would or would not
“ do him good, as soon as I returned
“ home I sent him a bottle of Rattle-
“ Snake Wine to take a glass of fre-
“ quently.

“ Upon my taking my leave of him,
“ he told me he had not closed his eyes
“ for eight nights successively.

“ Last night, the third since I visited
“ him, as I was sitting by my fireside,
“ in walked my patient to my great sur-
“ prize, which he observing ; Sir ! says
“ he, you cannot be so much amazed as
“ I am, nor half so much pleased ; I am
“ come to thank you, and if not crimi-
“ minal, to worship you.

“ Well Sir, said I, but I thought you
“ could not bear a coach nor a chair ; I
“ cannot answered he, I came walking

“ and have left my friends and neighbours
 “ in the greatest astonishment. Sir !
 “ this change surely cannot proceed from
 “ my medicine, it seems to me almost
 “ impossible. Sir ! ’tis true for all that
 “ replied he, and I have not had one
 “ tap all this whole day, and am in a
 “ manner free from pain. Sir ! said I
 “ don’t halloo, we are not yet out of
 “ the wood. Indeed Sir, says he I am
 “ at present, but God knows how soon
 “ I may be in again. When your sur-
 “ prise is over and your mind settled
 “ after your walk I’ll feel your pulse ; I
 “ did so, and from a quick and irregular
 “ one, which I observed when I visited
 “ him at his own house, I found it regu-
 “ lar, even and strong enough. This
 “ began to demolish my infidelity, and
 “ to give me some opinion of my Rattle-
 “ Snake Wine.

“ After sitting an hour with me free
 “ from pain, and without his man pat-
 “ ting him once, I asked him to go
 “ home in a chair. Sir, says he, a chair
 “ murders

“ murders me, unless the fellows would
“ carry their poles short, and give me
“ no swing or dancing, and that they
“ will not do ; so away he went on foot
“ in great spirits.

• “ I called upon him the day after this
“ dialogue, and he told me he walked
“ from my apartment at Lord Godol-
“ phin’s home with great ease, where he
“ met an assembly of friends, expecting
“ his return, wondering at what they
“ had heard and then saw.

“ He told me he believed his night
“ was not quite so good as it might have
“ been, had not his friends kept him up
“ too late to rejoice with him on this
“ happy event ; yet this day he said he
“ had found himself stronger than usual,
“ and had been at Lincoln’s-Inn-Hall
“ to present a petition to my Lord Chan-
“ cellor : however, notwithstanding these
“ halcyon-days, this fair sun-shine of
“ comfortable hope, I am afraid clouds
“ and storms will arise and make this poor
“ Gentleman

“ Gentleman again the most miserable.
 “ of Beings.

“ What happens farther you shall
 “ know; and if you will now tell me
 “ where the cause of this disorder lies,
 “ *Eris mihi magnus Apollo.*

“ I long to see you and talk with you
 “ about many things; for believe me
 “ ever

Yours very affectionately

M. MONSEY.

The Doctor's Problem is too hard for me to solve; but we have many instances, both ancient and modern, where different parts of the Encephalon being affected, have produced diseases accompanied with symptoms not declarative of their nature nor the sources from whence they sprung, or to be accounted for by those of the greatest penetration and discernment

cernment, so as to characterize them by specific and determinate appellations.

We have pertinent and recent instances in this kingdom, one in the case of a nobleman which was attended with a variety of symptoms denominated nervous, whose greatest complaint was in his stomach, proceeding from no other evident cause discovered after his death, by an accurate dissection, than a stone lodged in the Pineal Gland.

Another great Personage after labouring some years under a great variety also of nervous symptoms complained particularly of a violent pain of his arm, beginning at his fingers ends, frequently returning and gradually ascending, and when advanced as far as where the Deltoïd Muscle is inserted into the bone, then became so excruciating as to make him wish, with great earnestness, to have his limb taken off.

This

This Nobleman died under paralytic symptoms, expiring in convulsions.

Upon opening his head two small encysted tumors were found upon his brain on the opposite side to the affected limb; and no where else any thing preternatural.

These accounts I was favoured with from the Surgeons concerned in opening the bodies.

A few years ago I was desired to open the body of a young Gentleman of a noble family, who had an anomalous fever attended with nervous symptoms, which perplexed the judgment of an old and experienced Physician of great sagacity, who could not characterize it by any particular name to his own satisfaction, as he often told me during his attendance; but I never saw the patient in his life-time.

In

In this case, upon a very careful and attentive dissection, we discovered nothing amiss, only a turgescence of the vessels running upon the plicatures of the Pia Mater, and a considerable quantity of a lymphatic fluid in the Ventricles of the Brain.

In the year 1760, I visited a person in a kind of fever, that I knew not what class to place it under, attended with a shaking of the head and a kind of Emprosthotonos; and he told me had been subject to these disorders, in a less degree for several years, and sometimes to be vertiginous and fall down deprived of his senses for a short duration, and that he was never entirely free from a pain of his head. Upon any brisk exercise he used to become giddy, which symptom went off immediately upon resting himself.

In this disease he suffered inexpressibly for some months, and then died in the greatest agonies and strong convulsions.

Upon

Upon opening his head several offeous points were found rising considerably above the internal surface of the scull, partly upon the right *Os parietale* and partly upon the adjoining *Os Occipitis*, which irritated the *Dura Mater*; and this Membrane was in an inflamed state, beginning to mortify.

To this purpose read the illustrious Van Swieten's Commentaries upon Boerhaave's Aphorisms, § 1075. *

When

* *Corn. Stalpart Vander Wiel* mentions the case of a stone, which was found in the *Pineal Gland* of a woman who was dissected in his Brother's Anatomical Theatre at the *Hague*. Vid Ob. 12 Tom. 1.

In the Philosophical Transactions for the year, 1686, is recorded a memorable case of this nature, in a very circumstantial manner, in respect to the symptoms it produced; and for the singularity of it, it was taken into the *Acta Eruditorum publicata Lipsiæ*, Anno 1688.

Kerckringius gives an account of a stone like a filbert, that was found in the right Ventricle of the Brain, with a figure of it; describing the symptoms which attended the

When Doctor Monfey informed the Gentleman who is the subject of this letter, that it was Rattle-Snake Wine he had given him, he sent directly to a Friend in the West-Indies, where it is drank as the highest Cordial, desiring he would send him a large quantity, and also
some

the case, and the state the Brain appeared in upon dissection.

Vid. Schenkii Observationem in Dolore Capitis ex Lapidibus in Cerebro repertis.

Hildanus and many other eminent and authentic Observators, which may be consulted, mention stoney concretions, &c. having been found in the brain, &c. with the symptoms attending such cases.

Bonetus, in his Anatomia Practica, has collected many cases to this purpose; and Lib. 1. de Capitis Affectibus in his Medicina Septentrionalis Collatitia is well worth attentive perusal on this account.

Stoney concretions have been observed in almost every part of the body, particularly in the glandular parts; in many I have found them, as in the glands of the breast, the maxillary, sublingual, &c.

some Rattle-Snakes, where they are found in great plenty: And before this occurrence, having had the following relation transmitted to him from thence, and well authenticated, by his friend, he conceived the greater hopes and expectations of the efficacy of this medicine, as previous to his own most dreadful and unprecedented disorder, he had been subject to a violent cutaneous disease, something of a leprous nature; and gave the Doctor the following history, which he communicated to me by letter.

A very wealthy old Gentleman in that Country, had long been afflicted with the Leprosy to an high degree, which was deemed incurable by his Physicians.

Apparently in a dying state he made his will, and left a large legacy to a female servant, who had lived with him many years.

This circumstance being known to her, she and her lover, by the instigation
of

of the devil, studied and contrived how to make away with him, in such a manner as to raise the least suspicion of their wickedness. They put the heads of Rattle-Snakes into wine and gave him it to drink, thinking it would prove an infallible poison, but as he grew better upon taking it, they, happily for him, falsely concluded they had not made it strong enough, then made it stronger; and by drinking this intended poison he was restored to perfect health.

A Gentleman cured of the Leprosy by what was intended to poison him.

Compunction of conscience put this unfaithful and wicked servant upon falling on her knees before her master, imploring his mercy, and in tears confessing her atrocious crime. He not only forgave her, but gave her a sum of money, ordering her to depart his house directly and never see him more. *

Q

As

* *Galen, Aretæus*, and other of the Ancients recommended eating vipers, sometimes dressed like eels, in the *Elephantiasis*.—*Dampier* says, that the natives of *Tonquin* in the *East-Indies* treat their friends, with Arrack,

in

Account of a puncture thro' the scull attended with very singular circumstances

As I passed through Halefworth in my way into Norfolk, on June the 6th 1773, Mrs. Nursey a tradesman's wife stopped me in the street and asked my opinion about her child's case in which tho' she described it very imperfectly, I apprehended there was some great latent mischief; consequently, as the Surgeon who lived in the town was not at home, for us to see the child together, I only most earnestly desired the mother to have her child's head very strictly examined as soon as possible by him, and if she thought

in which snakes and scorpions have been infused, esteeming it not only a great cordial; but also an efficacious remedy in the Leprosy, and an antidote against poison.

When *Cato* marched *Pompey's* shattered army through *Africa*, he encouraged the intimidated soldiers to quench their thirst at a spring without fear, tho' they saw the water full of serpents, as *Lucan* relates in his *Pharsalia*, Lib. IX.

Noxia serpentum est admisto sanguine pestis,
Morsu virus habent & fatum dente minantur.
Pocula morte carent - - - -

thought proper, for her farther satisfaction, to have the Physician of the place present, who was well acquainted with Surgery.

Upon this occasion I received the following letter from the Surgeon, a judicious man in his profession, authenticated by the Physician.

Halesworth, *July* the 26th, 1773.

DEAR SIR,

“ I send you the following very singular case, which we had not an opportunity of examining together, when Mrs. Nursey asked your opinion about it, thinking it may not be altogether unworthy a place in your intended Collection, which you are about favouring the public with.

“ On May the 16th, 1773, I was called to a child of Mr. Nursey's about

Q 2

“ four

“ four years old, when she was lately
“ recovered of a fever which terminated
“ by an abscess in the axilla. She had
“ also at times been subject to worms;
“ had now febrile symptoms, and com-
“ plained of sickness and pain in her
“ bowels, which I apprehended pro-
“ ceeded from worms and treated her
“ accordingly, by which means one more
“ was brought away.

“ On the 30th she made great com-
“ plaint of her head and was drowsy,
“ with a quick low pulse.

“ Blistering was proposed, but rejec-
“ ted by the too timorous indulgent
“ mother, nor could the child now be
“ prevailed upon to take any kind of
“ medicine, except now and then a purge.

“ On the third of June her mother
“ informed me there was a considerable
“ discharge from a very small orifice
“ over the right eye, but then she re-
“ fused to have it examined; she recol-
“ lected

“ lected however, that more than a
“ month before, the child came crying
“ to her with a pair of small sharp poin-
“ ted scissars in her hand, and that she
“ observed a little spot of blood upon
“ the part whence the discharge now
“ proceeded; but it appeared so trifling
“ as to be disregarded.

“ The discharge now seemed purely
“ lymphatic, and was daily increasing so
“ as to wet several handkerchiefs in a
“ day and night; but upon this dis-
“ charge the child became more lively.

“ June the seventh, the day after your
“ conversation with Mrs. Nursey, Dr.
“ Urban was called in, when she con-
“ sented to have the part examined; and
“ we found a very small orifice or punc-
“ ture like the bite of a leech, about an
“ inch above the arch of the orbit of
“ the eye, towards the external canthus.

“ In our examination the child lay in
“ an horizontal posture on her mother's
Q 3 “ lap;

“ lap ; the probe passed, without the
“ least resistance, directly forwards thro’
“ the scalp and cranium also more than
“ two inches, and without doubt might
“ have been passed farther, had we not
“ been fearful of injuring the parts.

“ With the Doctor’s approbation I
“ now removed a small portion of the
“ scalp round the orifice to facilitate the
“ discharge, &c. and we then saw the
“ aperture through the cranium. The
“ wound was dressed in an easy manner,
“ using a very slight bandage, and the
“ purging medicine was repeated more
“ frequently, with a view of making a
“ diversion by the bowels, in order to
“ lessen the discharge from the Ence-
“ phalon, &c. This discharge flowed
“ constantly and uniformly at the rate
“ of a dram or more every five minutes
“ into a silver spoon ; it tasted like the
“ tears and was as transparent. A spoon-
“ ful of this fluid evaporated over a
“ candle did not inspissate like lymph,
“ with heat, nor leave any residuum, ex-
“ cept

“ cept a very small saline substance in
“ the spoon. The effusion continued in
“ this quantity for several days, which
“ was at the rate of 36 ounces in 24
“ hours; the purging medicine was often
“ repeated till the 15th, when the dis-
“ charge seemed quite stopped, and the
“ child apparently, tho’ very weak, in a
“ state of recovery; and then the pur-
“ ging medicine was repeated at longer
“ intervals.

“ Now the mother of the child ac-
“ quainted us with what she should by
“ no means have concealed; that on
“ Sunday May the 9th, a watery fluid
“ perfectly transparent, was first observed
“ to come trickling from above the eye-
“ brow down the side of the cheek; that
“ on Wednesday the 12th, the child lay
“ in a stupid, lethargic state apparently
“ dying; that next day at three or four
“ o’ clock in the morning a stream of
“ transparent water spurted out several
“ inches high, from the spot thought to
“ have been wounded with the point of

Q 4 .

“ the

“ the scissars ; and this little jet d’ eau,
“ or stream of water, supported the arch
“ it first formed for about 10 minutes,
“ and almost immediately after this the
“ child perfectly awaked from its sleepi-
“ nefs and stupor. It was also observed
“ by the mother and others then present,
“ that this fluid changed the color of
“ a purple silk handkerchief to a bright
“ red.

“ On the 24th our patient was so well
“ as to ride on horseback with her father ;
“ but in the evening of that day, she
“ complained again of her head, and had
“ some transient convulsive motions.

“ Next morning I visited her, she
“ then appeared brisk and lively, with-
“ out any spasmodic affections, and took
“ her usual dose of the laxative.

“ At five or six in the evening of this
“ day, I was sent for in great haste, as
“ those about the child thought her ac-
“ tually dying ; I found her indeed de-
“ prived

“prived of all sense and voluntary motion and in strong convulsions, in which the muscles of the eyes, face, arms, and hands were principally affected; and in this dreadful state I was informed she had been ever since three in the afternoon.

“I instantly dispatched a messenger for the Doctor, requesting his immediate attendance; he came accordingly and ordered the child to be bled directly.

“These most alarming and threatening symptoms still continuing, we then urged in the strongest terms we could to the parents, &c. enforced by the concurrent opinion of another Surgeon now called in, to have a perforation made in the skull forthwith, as the only rational means left, in our unanimous opinion, to preserve the child's life, tho' that carried but little probability of success. This operation was objected to at first, particularly by the mother,

“ mother, but soon complied with and
“ then immediately performed, inclu-
“ ding the puncture of the cranium, †
“ within the crown of the trephine; †
“ but no discharge of the aqueous kind
“ followed the operation. The Dura
“ Mater did not appear discoloured; but
“ in the agonizing cries of the pati-
“ ent it arose with great force, and was
“ at least propelled one third of a sphere
“ through the perforation. In this state
“ we made an incision with a lancet
“ through that membrane, but no other
“ discharge ensued than a little blood,
“ which made us the more despair of
“ success, especially as the symptoms
“ continued so violent, that in short we
“ all thought our patient absolutely ex-
“ piring: however, under these dreadful
“ circumstances a stimulating clyster was
“ given, which procured two stools in
“ about

† Upon an attentive examination of the circular piece of the scull after the removal of it, the orifice made with the scissars was found entirely closed, with a very thin diaphanous ossification.

“ about an hour, upon which the alarming symptoms began to remit and the child became sensible; in a few hours the convulsions, in a great measure went off; then she called for small-beer and passed a tolerable night.

“ Twenty-Sixth the child continued sensible, yet had several slight returns of convulsions and a restless night. she could not be prevailed upon to take any medicines, but the injection was repeated with a good effect.

“ Twenty-Seventh continued restless and somewhat confused till the evening; about seven or eight o'clock she fell asleep, slept comfortably three or four hours, awaked refreshed and seemed better in every respect.

“ Twenty-Eighth an appearance of digestion in the wound, no aqueous discharge

“ discharge from the aperture, no new
“ threatening symptoms, she slept quietly
“ in the night, but awaked in some con-
“ fusion which soon went off.

“ Twenty-ninth a good appearance in
“ the wound; symptoms favourable;
“ bowels kept in proper order with the
“ laxative.

“ Till July the 9th all things went
“ on favourably, when near a tea-cup
“ full of purulent matter was discharged
“ through the aperture, without any re-
“ markable symptoms preceding this
“ discharge.

“ On the 12th there appeared a very
“ great protrusion of the Dura Mater,
“ &c. through the aperture, as you have
“ described in your Observations, which
“ was effectually suppressed by the per-
“ forated plate of lead you there recom-
“ mend,

“ mend, without any disagreeable con-
“ sequence from the use of it. This pro-
“ trusion we found was much increased
“ by the violent efforts the child made
“ sometimes in crying, at the time of
“ dressing.

“ At the time of writing this letter
“ the child enjoys its senses perfectly,
“ appears in good health and the wound
“ in a good condition.

“ I have endeavoured with Doctor
“ D' Urban's assistance, to give you as
“ clear a description of this very extra-
“ ordinary case as I possibly could, and I
“ hope the history as well as the treat-
“ ment of it will meet with your appro-
“ bation. I am with the greatest respect
“ and esteem,

Sir,

your most obliged

humble Servant

JOHN REVANS.

The history which Mr. Revans has given of Mr. Nursey's child's case corresponds with my minutes and observations, from June the 7th to July the 26th, 1773.

J. D' URBAN M. D.

On July the 30th, I visited the child with Doctor D' Urban and Mr. Revans, and the circumstances of the case were confirmed to me by Mrs. Nursey and others, whom I interrogated particularly concerning it. I found the child perfect in its senses, apparently in good health and very chearful. The wound had a good aspect, the rising of the exfoliation of the bone round the perforation, made bare upon scalping, was as thin as the finest scale of a fish, and so transparent as we could see the granulations of flesh through it, rising to throw it off. I have also carefully examined the piece of bone taken out upon trepanning, and find the hole made with the scissars closed with the ossification as has been described.

The

The following Experiments and Remarks attentively made, relate to the Case of Fragility, Flexibility, and Dissolution of the Bones which succeeded each other therein, as mentioned in my Chirurgical Observations, Edit. II.

Six pieces of equal dimensions were sawed transversely out of the shank-bone of an ox, and suspended by threads in phials about half full of the following Menstruums ; which were constantly kept in a lamp-furnace for several days, in a degree of heat equal to that of human blood. 1. Was water strongly acidulated with spirit. vitrioli. 2. Water so impregnated with spirit. sal. marin. 3. Water with caust. commun. fort. dissolved in it. 4. Water mixt with one third of putrid. human blood. 5. Lime-Water. 6. Common vinegar.

The

The result of these Experiments was, a crumbling down of the bone in the mixture with the spirit. vitrioli. Almost a total solution of the piece in the water with the spirit. sal. marin. The menstruum with the caust. commun. fort. made no solution of the boney substance, but acted upon the vascular, or whatever connects the osseous particles together; for the piece of bone macerated in this mixture, became so friable, as to separate with little force between the finger and thumb. The lime-water produced no visible effect; nor did the mixture with the putrid blood make any impression upon the bone; and the vinegar only softened the surface of it a little. *

In proportion as the acid spirits acted upon the bones, an addition of them was made to the water, which reinforcement was intended to preserve the original strength of the menstruum.

The

* It may probably be more satisfactory to any of the profession who chuse to make similar or other experiments of investigation, to take recent pieces of the thigh or leg bone of an human subject.

The ossific matter, or what gives solidity and constitutes bone, is of a calcareous, alkaline earthy nature; and the solution of it in the menstruum with the spirit sal. marin. had nearly the taste of sea-salt.

We must indeed still be at a loss to account satisfactorily for the cause of Fragility, Emollition, and Dissolution of the bones in a living body; for it is not to be imagined that any known acid or alkali can be so predominant in the humors, as to produce such extraordinary effects as have been observed in the case under consideration; nor had putrefaction any share therein.

I tasted and chewed some of the dissolved substance of the thigh-bone; it was soft upon the palate like marrow, inoffensive and insipid, without any acid or alkaline taste; neither of which qualities were discovered by other Experiments.

R

As

As there is a constant waste and supply of the parts of an animal body in health, we may infer, that if through some dyscrasy or vitiated state of the fluids, defect of the nutritious vessels, or want of energy in the solids, the apposition of boney particles does not balance the waste, the bones will consequently become soft and flexible, as they have membranous and vascular compages for their basis.

However, after all, this is but of little use in leading us to the grand point, curing the disease.

These questions naturally arise from the premises. What obstructs the apposition and cohesion of the elementary particles, which give firmness and stability to the bones or perverts them? What vitiated state, or combination of animal juices, under any specification, will produce such a dissolvent? This abstruse matter may prove incomprehensible, and
these

these problems may ever be too difficult for the most sagacious and accurate investigators to solve; yet could the characteristic symptoms of this disease be early discovered, they might indeed conduct us to some rational means both internal and external, proving efficacious in its incipient state to prevent the progress and cure it; but cases of this nature are so rare, that they do not give the most attentive and curious observer opportunities of settling criterions to be relied on.

The Parisian Case of Peter Supiot's wife, in some circumstances, appears to be the most extraordinary of this nature, which we have in the Records of Physic, and deserves a considerate reading.

This very memorable Case was accurately drawn up, soon after the patient's

R 2

death,

death, in the year 1752, by Monf. Morand, M. D. and Doctor Hofty, who was then Phyfician to our Ambaffador at the French Court, by the exprefs defire of the Prefident of the Faculty of Phyfic at Paris and publifhed directly by that authority. Immediately after the publication, it was fent me by a Friend, with the original Engraving of the patient's astonishing figure annexed.

It was obfervable in this patient's cafe, that her urine had a very ftrong, difagreeable, alkaline fmell, in which was frequently found a great fediment of a white, cretaccous, gypfeous nature, which, when dried and mixt with mineral or vegetable acids, raifed a fermentation.

After having voided this matter with her urine, it was particularly remarked, that

that her saliva spotted and stained the cloths like mercurial ointment, with such an appearance also in consequence of profuse sweats, upon the linen next her body, which could not be washed out with soap, and the nurses were sensible of the acrimony of this perspirable matter, by the effect the wash had upon their hands.

An

Monro's Osteology.——Chefelden's and Albinus's Osteography.—Nesbitt's and Kerckringius's Osteogeny —And Monf. Courtial's Observat. Anatom. sur les Os, are capital Books in respect to the Bones.

*An Explanation of the following PLATE,
which illness prevented my publishing formerly.*

FIGURE 1.

Relates to the Description of Tumors on the Heads of new born Children, mentioned in my Treatise on Wounds, Page 323.

A. A. A. A. The elliptical Ridge formed by the increased Thickness of the Pericranium over the right Parietal Bone, which was the Boundary of the Tumor; and under that Membrane the extravasated Blood was contained.

B. B. A portion of the Scalp removed perpendicularly as far as the Ridge, shewing the Fissure C.

FIGURE. 2.

Appertains to the Case at Page 335 in the same Treatise.

A. A. The Os Hyoides drawn up by the action of the Muscles.

B. B. The Course of the Wound.

C. C. The Thyroid Cartilage.

D. D. The Ligatures including the Os Hyoides and passing through the Edge of the Thyroid Cartilage, &c. with that in the middle over the Epiglottis a.

E. The Trachea.

F. The Œsophagus.

*** These Engravings were accurately made from the parts which I have in my possession.

Fig. 2.

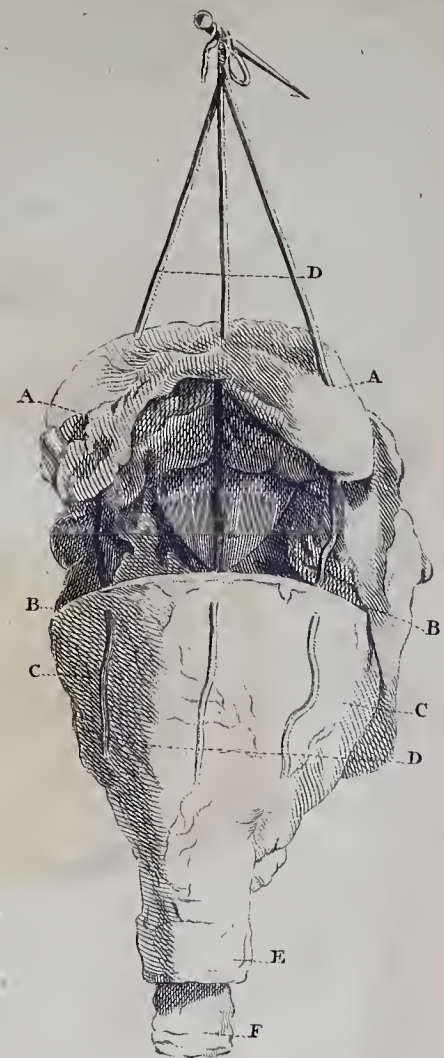


Fig. 1.

